

## GCC supports U.N. peace call

RIYADH (AP) — Foreign Ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ended a two-day conference Wednesday by urging Iran to respond to United Nations peace efforts to end the Gulf war. They voiced "deep concern over the 'wave escalation' in fighting between Iran and Iraq and praised Baghdad for making an end to the conflict. The ministers expressed hope that Iran would respond to the "will of the international community" and accept U.N. Security Council resolutions for a ceasefire and negotiated settlement. In a statement, the ministers supported U.N. resolutions calling for an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of forces to the pre-war international border. "The GCC is eager to see a peaceful end to this destructive war... to secure the legitimate rights of the two parties, in harmony with the GCC policy of backing the peace bids being exerted by the various organisations and international bodies and in pursuit of its efforts to lessen the dangers that threaten peace and security in the region," the statement said.

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## U.S.: Lebanon will remain isolated

WASHINGTON (R) — Lebanon will remain isolated from the world at large until the Lebanese people rid their country of the anarchy now taking place in the streets of Beirut, the U.S. State Department said Wednesday. In the latest of a series of increasingly blunt statements, spokesman Charles Redman stressed the responsibility Lebanon itself bears for ending factional violence and ousting foreign forces. The raging violence engulfing Beirut "is deplorable but there will be no end to it until the people of Beirut and Lebanon as a whole take up their responsibilities as a civilised community to overcome the chaos and factional strife besetting the country," he said. "Until the Lebanese move to rid their country of the type of brutal anarchy now going on in the streets of Beirut and in other parts of Lebanon, they will remain isolated from the world at large," he added. As long as factional violence prevails, Lebanon "will be fertile ground for outside influences to exploit," he said.

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### King visits army units

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordan Armed Forces, accompanied by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker on Wednesday visited the Fifth Royal Armoured Division and the 12th Royal Mechanised Division. The King was received upon his arrival by the divisions' commanders and high-ranking officers. King Hussein conferred with the divisions' commanders and was briefed by them on the progress of training and administrative issues.

### Kingdom's insignia to be changed

AMMAN (Petra) — The official insignia for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan will be amended upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein, according to a statement issued by the Prime Ministry on Wednesday. The statement said that the insignia comprises of the crown, a sash on which the crown rests, two banners, an eagle which signifies the banner of the Prophet Muhammad, a globe in blue colour, the coat of arms which consists of shield, sword, spear and bow and arrow, three golden corn ears and palm leaves, the Al Nahda Decoration of the First Order and a yellow cord hanging from the sash.

### Jordan-N.Yemeni talks conclude

AMMAN (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-North Yemeni Committee ended meetings in Amman on Wednesday and resolutions and recommendations designed to bolster cooperation between the two countries in different fields. The committee, which had been holding meetings in the past two days, met for a final session at the Foreign Ministry on Wednesday under the co-chairmanship of Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani. The committee is due to issue the final statement on Thursday. (Earlier story on page 3).

### Khatib leaves for Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib left for Baghdad on Wednesday on a two-day official visit to Iraq. During his stay there, Mr. Khatib will hold discussions with his Iraqi counterpart Latif Jassem. The minister is accompanied on his visit by Director of the Department for Culture and Arts Haidar Mahmoud, Mr. Ali Al Safadi, director of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, and Mr. Issam Arida, director of Radio Jordan.

### Reagan confirms Webb's nomination

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Wednesday he would nominate James H. Webb, a best-selling author and assistant secretary of defence for reserve affairs, to succeed John F. Lehman as secretary of the Navy. Mr. Lehman made his resignation formal Tuesday, declaring both the navy and marine corps to be in "very good shape." Mr. Webb declined to discuss his plans with reporters Tuesday. But officials, speaking on condition they not be named, said Defence Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger had prevailed upon him to scuttle his retirement plans.

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## King: U.S. has lost all credibility in Arab World

Agency dispatches

**HIS MAJESTY King Hussein said in remarks published on Wednesday that the U.S. had lost all credibility in the Arab World because of its arms sales to Iran.**

In an interview published in the Financial Times of London, the King also dismissed declarations by Washington that it wanted to help settle the Middle East conflict. There was no sign of this in practice, he said.

Referring to the U.S. arms sales to Iran, the King said he was "more than shocked," and added:

"The U.S. has lost its credibility in this area totally. What has been revealed is diametrically opposed to every assurance I

have received.

"I had been told that the Americans would do everything in their power to prevent the supply of arms to Iran and thus the continuation of the Gulf war. The last thing that one ever expected was that the U.S. would augment the military machine of Iran which has refused to respond to any call to end this war."

He said the supplies had shifted the delicate balance of forces in Iran's favour in its war with Iraq. There was little point in him

accepting an invitation to visit Washington for talks with President Ronald Reagan next month, the King said. He indicated his intention instead of seeking closer defence cooperation with countries in Western Europe.

"We have not asked for any arms and will not ask for any arms from the U.S. I have really every inclination to look at the possibility of greater cooperation with Europe in the area of defence requirements," he said.

On Washington's role in the Israeli-Arab conflict, he said: "I have been assured they are interested in resolving the Arab-Israeli problem. But I have not seen any manifestation of that."

The interview was conducted in Amman for the Financial Times by Roger Mathews and Andrew Gowers.

## Spain ready to supply arms to Jordan as and when asked

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Spanish Defence Minister Marcos Serra said on Wednesday his country was ready to supply arms to Jordan whenever the Kingdom made such requests.

Spain has always responded positively to Jordan's request for defence equipment since "we understand the situation in the area," said Dr. Serra in a press conference capping his three-day visit which ends Thursday.

He said although Spain maintains an embargo against arms sales to Iraq, Iran, Libya and Syria, "there are no restrictions whatsoever on weapon supplies to Jordan."

Dr. Serra, 44, who arrived here from Saudi Arabia on Tuesday at the head of a six-member military

delegation, was received by His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker also held talks with the Spanish minister.

Replying to a question, the minister said that the first batch of 16 CASA C101 trainer aircraft Jordan ordered from Spain in 1985 were expected to arrive here "this May or June." The \$90 million aircraft deal was signed here on Dec. 24, 1985. Dr. Serra said the package was "prepared in a very favourable financial scheme." Spain, he said, is ready for similar financial arrangements to cover future supplies of equipment to Jordan.

He termed the C101 planes as a "strong aircraft adapted for training."

Asked whether his talks here

covered possible Spanish arms sales to Jordan, Dr. Serra said: "I am not in Jordan as an arms dealer but as a member of my government." However, he said, "my country will be very happy if we can further strengthen the existing ties" between the air forces of the two countries.

Dr. Serra said Jordanian-Spanish cooperation in the field of defence also included exchange of visits by military delegations and trainees.

Replying to another question, Dr. Serra said Spain had no military cooperation programmes with Israel and that he "foresaw no future relationship between the two countries in this field."

"Our relations with Israel are limited to the areas of politics, economics and culture," he said.

## Shamir ready to go to elections to block international conference

### Peres challenges Shamir

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres again voiced support on Wednesday for an international peace conference on the Middle East despite Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's adamant rejection of the idea in Washington.

"The truth is that for two-and-a-half years, we have been conducting a policy of direct negotiations to be achieved by means of an international conference," Mr. Peres told armed forces radio.

Mr. Peres said: "I spoke about this four times in parliament, with (Egyptian) President Hosni Mubarak in Alexandria and if it is so dangerous they (Likud) should have stopped me."

any of (them), including an international conference, would lead immediately to direct negotiations."

Mr. Shamir told the reporters: "I trust the United States will not agree to substitute (direct negotiations) for Soviet-inspired notions supported by 'radical' Arab Nations, such as an international conference."

Mr. Shamir was to meet President Reagan on Wednesday hav-

ing dumped unceremoniously the latest U.S. idea on Middle East peace talks.

Mr. Shamir's trenchant opposition to the idea of an international conference appeared to scotch the idea, at least for the moment.

Mr. Shamir's opposition, despite his own foreign ministry's readiness to pursue the proposal, meant progress in the near future

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### Haughey heads for narrow win

DUBLIN (R) — Opposition leader Charles Haughey headed for victory on Wednesday in the Irish general election but he could just fail to clinch an overall majority and be forced to settle for a minority government, according to unofficial estimates from party workers.

Mr. Haughey, 61, bidding to be Irish prime minister for the third time, said: "There's nothing definite at this stage but all our calculations are that we are on target for a majority."

The Fianna Fail leader needs 84 seats for an overall majority and tallymen, the party workers who monitor vote-counting, forecast that he would win 82-85 seats.

All tallymen agreed that Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald's ruling Fine Gael party was doomed to defeat while the new break-away Progressive Democrats, led by Fianna Fail dissident Desmond O'Malley, could win up to 14 seats.

### Mubarak lauds Egypt-Sudan kinship after meeting Mahdi

CAIRO (Agencies) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi had talks with President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday in a visit aimed at improving relations that soured after Sudan befriended Libya and Egypt gave asylum to ousted Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri.

Mr. Mubarak received Mr. Mahdi immediately after his arrival from the Sudanese capital Khartoum for a five-day visit, his first since taking office last April. The two leaders were closeted for an hour in Mr. Mubarak's office at the presidential Kubbah Palace, and Mr. Mubarak later was host at a working lunch.

Mr. Mahdi left the palace without talking to reporters. In remarks after he left, however, Mr. Mubarak glossed over differences between the two countries that delayed the prime minister's visit several times.

Describing the talks as positive, Mr. Mubarak said in reply to a question about disagreements:

"We don't disagree. We are agreed on everything. The kinship between us and Sudan is above everything."

He said the talks touched on a new framework for bilateral ties which Mr. Mahdi's government calls a brotherhood charter. The Sudanese want it to replace a 1982 agreement, signed with Mr. Numeiri, known as the integration charter.

Mr. Mubarak said the proposed framework would concentrate on economic cooperation. Mr. Mahdi said in an airport statement he hoped his talks with Egyptian officials would provide an opportunity "to bolster eternal ties between the two Nile Basin countries."

The visit is important to both countries because of efforts by Mr. Mahdi's coalition government to maintain Sudan's traditional close ties with Egypt while developing relations with Libya, Cairo's adversary.

## Prince Hassan emphasises need for balanced national education strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday called on the Council of Education to study carefully to the needs of the Jordanian society while preparing programmes and working out plans for developing the educational system in the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan, who was addressing a special meeting of the council to discuss a report by the council's education policy committee, said "the psychological stability of a society is of vital significance; and the Jordanian society is looking forward to a well-planned strategy in education that can enable it to deal with different circumstances and developments for the coming two decades."

"The present education strategy and the imbalances in the work force and employment in the country have warranted the formation of a special work team with diverse specialisations to work out an educational strategy for Jordan's future," Prince Hassan said.

He said the team comprises of

experts in economics and planning, as well as educationalists "who can put together a comprehensive strategy that can cater for the country's requirements."

Prince Hassan said the team had been working over the past nine months and had submitted its report to the council which would work out recommendations that would meet the country's educational needs, taking into consideration different factors and flexible enough to serve

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## Arab taxidriver killed after running down 2 Israeli soldiers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(Agencies) — A Palestinian taxidriver was killed on Wednesday after he ran down and injured two Israeli soldiers on the 10th consecutive day of protests in the occupied West Bank.

"Eyewitnesses said he was trying to kill the soldiers. Afterwards, he lost control and hit a wall and died as a result of the collision," an army spokesman said.

Meanwhile, all five Arab universities and three colleges in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were closed Wednesday as the wave of anti-Israeli protests went into its tenth day.

The Palestine Press Service, which monitors events in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, said the taxidriver was killed

by Israeli gunfire and his car was riddled with bullets.

The press service said three other Palestinians were also wounded in the Israeli gunfire. It said the three were either passengers in the taxi or by-standers, and one was hospitalised with a rubber bullet wound.

The driver was identified by Palestinian sources as Samih Ibrahim Kharousheh, 34, a resident of the Askar camp. In Nablus, Palestinians stoned a paramilitary police patrol, sources said. No one was hurt and the attackers escaped.

A petrol bomb was thrown at an Israeli car near the Jewish settlement of Alfei Menashe, but there were no injuries, Israel Radio reported.

The recent wave of protests began last week after Palestinians

on the taxi when they saw what happened.

"The driver hit a school wall, got out of the car and tried to throw stones, then collapsed," said Barak.

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## Amal says it lifted siege

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia said Wednesday it had lifted a four-month siege of three Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Amal sources told Reuters it had ended blockades of Beirut's Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps and Rashidiyeh camp in southern Lebanon on orders from Amal leader Nabih Berri in Damascus.

"Some Palestinian refugees left Bourj Al Barajneh after the siege was lifted to buy some goods," one source said.

Asked if the blockades were only partially lifted, he said: "The orders did not specify a time limit for the refugees to leave or enter the camp so it is a complete lift."

Reporters and photographers were unable to go to the camps on Beirut's southern outskirts as fierce street battles raged in the west of the city between Amal, Communists and the Progressive Socialist Party.

Witnesses in the southern port of Tyre told Reuters Amal militiamen had also lifted the siege of Rashidiyeh and scores of refugees streamed out to the town.

Mr. Berri said Tuesday that Amal's food and medicine blockade of Palestinian refugee camps in west Beirut and southern Lebanon would be lifted Wednesday.

However, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official told AP in Baghdad that there was no evidence the siege had been lifted by Wednesday afternoon.

The official said the PLO initially had welcomed Mr. Berri's announcement he would lift the siege.

He, however, said "we don't believe Berri is sincere."

An Amal official in Tyre told Reuters Rashidiyeh would be open daily between eight a.m. and three p.m.

Palestinian sources in Lebanon were not immediately available for comment and it was not independently confirmed whether Amal militiamen had withdrawn from positions around the settlements, Reuters said.

Scores of refugees who fled Bourj Al Barajneh over the past few days said they ate cats and dogs to survive.

## Syrian warning and Karami's threat fail to quell militia war

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Battles between rival militias "raged across west Beirut on Wednesday amid reports that prime minister Rashid Karami had threatened to resign and Syria planned to send in more troops."

Many buildings were ablaze as street battles surged back and forth despite fresh calls for a truce, residents said, and artillery shells had crashed into most residential and commercial areas of the Lebanese capital's western sector.

Local radios said a Syrian-led security force would take to the streets with "shoot to kill" orders to try to end the close-quarter combat between leftists and Shi'ite Muslims.

Residents said scores of leftist

fighters converged on the 40-storey Murr Tower, exchanging fusillades of tracer bullet and rocket-propelled grenade fire in a bid to dislodge Shi'ite Amal militiamen from their vantage point.

Political sources told Reuters that Mr. Karami, Education Minister Selim Hoss and Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini had told Syrian officials they would quit unless the battle for control of west Beirut was stopped.

The sources also said Damascus planned to send large military contingents to the western sector once the fighting eased and leaders of the warring militias returned to Beirut.

Amal sources told Reuters that the militia lifted its 18-week siege

## Iraq halts air raids

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq on Wednesday announced a two-week halt to air raids on Iranian towns and cities but said it would be free to launch fresh strikes if Iran hit residential areas or attacked Iraqi territory.

The announcement, read over Baghdad Radio, said the halt would take effect from 0900 GMT on Thursday.

The radio said the move followed an appeal by Baghdad-based Iranian opposition leader Massoud Rajavi to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

It said Mr. Rajavi, leader of the Mujahideen-e-Khalq organisation, asked President Hussein to halt the air raids "in the name of the struggling masses against the aggressive Iranian regime."

It said the halt would cover only towns and cities, not military targets, targets directly or indirectly related to Iran's war effort, troop concentrations and economic targets.

Iraq has made almost daily air raids on targets in Iranian towns and cities since Jan. 9, when Tehran launched a cross-border thrust towards the southern Iraqi city of Basra.

Iraq has said more than 3,000 of its people have been killed and 9,000 injured in the raids.

Wednesday's announcement came only 30 minutes after a military spokesman in Baghdad said Iraqi warplanes attacked targets in six Iranian towns and cities.

Asked how many Syrian troops would be involved in the possible move into west Beirut, one source said: "Hundreds are not enough."

Syria has about 25,000 troops in north and east Lebanon and sent 400 commandos and security

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## Amnesty Int'l assails U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — Amnesty International, charging the United States is one of five countries that "executes juvenile killers, has attacked the U.S. death penalty as arbitrary, racially biased and a violation of international accords."

The human rights organisation said the death penalty in the United States had become "a horrifying lottery" in which politics, money, race and where the crime was committed could decide whether a defendant went to the death chamber.

In a harsh indictment of the U.S. judicial system, Amnesty deplored the fact that several people executed or awaiting the death penalty were mentally ill or were under the age of 18.

"The imposition of death sent-

ences on people who were under 18 at the time of the crime is a clear violation of international treaties and guidelines" the organisation said in a 245-page report on capital punishment in the U.S.

Such restrictions were included in the international covenant on civil and political rights and the American convention on human rights, both signed by the U.S. in 1977.

Amnesty said three teenage killers were executed between September 1985 and May 1986.

"These executions put the USA out of line with most other death penalty countries which do not execute people who were minors at the time of the crime," the report said.

## Gates pledges no repetition of CIA mistakes over Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Robert Gates, seeking Senate approval of his nomination to head the CIA, has acknowledged serious errors in the U.S. spy agency's handling of undercover Iran arms deals and promised to guard against similar failures.

But during more than five hours of testimony on Tuesday before an often sceptical Senate Intelligence Committee, Mr. Gates defended his decision not to tell Congress last year of the diversion of proceeds to Nicaraguan rebels.

"I regarded what little information I had as worrisome, but extraordinarily flimsy," said Mr. Gates, who faced a second round of tough questions from Senators

later Wednesday.

"It would have been irresponsible to report this flimsy speculation."

Mr. Gates, who has served as acting Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) chief since December when William Casey underwent brain surgery, said he was first alerted last Oct. 1 that funds from President Ronald Reagan's covert arms sales to Iran could have been diverted to the rebels called contras.

Mr. Gates, 43, who was quizzed by Senators on Tuesday on his knowledge of both the Iran arms sales and the contra diversion, would be the intelligence agency's youngest chief if confirmed by the Senate.

## Arafat hints at dropping 'Cairo Declaration'

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat hinted in an interview published on Wednesday that he might scrap the 1985 "Cairo Declaration" in which he pledged to halt attacks on Israeli targets abroad.

"I ask, can the Cairo Declaration remain valid if it is respected by one side only? he told the Egyptian weekly Al-Mussawwar. "If Israel believes this is so, then I say no, a thousand times no ... patience has its limits."

Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), listed a series of attacks by Israel on Palestinians, including the seizure of a ship last week which Israel said was taking fighters to refugee camps.

"The interview was conducted in Algiers before Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri announced that his Amal militia was lifting its four-month siege of Palestinian camps in Lebanon."

Mr. Arafat asked whether the Cairo Declaration was relevant "at a time when Palestinian camps are being massacred, the Israeli navy is imposing a blockade on foods and medicines destined for the camps."

He issued the declaration, saying he would order his fighters to limit attacks to Israelis in the occupied Arab territories, in November 1985 after talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.



# Gemayel 'advised' Waite against going to Beirut

KUWAIT (AP) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel said he held Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite responsible for the consequences of acting against his advice and going to Lebanon, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The Lebanese state advised Waite not to travel to Beirut, but he opted for a different decision, Mr. Gemayel said in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anbaa.

The newspaper did not give details of when or how the advice was given to Mr. Waite, who has not been seen publicly since he left his Beirut hotel on Jan. 20 to negotiate with kidnappers of foreign hostages.

Mr. Gemayel, who was interviewed in London, lashed out at states he did not name for "dealing with Lebanese militia." He was apparently alluding to recent contacts with kidnappers of Western hostages by Mr. Waite and unspecified emissaries from Western capitals.

"I do not understand why some states opted to deal with militias," he said.

Mr. Gemayel said that his current European tour was aimed at "convincing Europeans that the Lebanese legitimate authority is their sole option in Lebanon, because legitimacy, despite its weakness, remains the strongest

individual force in Lebanon." He complained that Western countries were asking him for "assurances" about the fate of their nationals held hostage, saying "but such assurances will remain absent until the removal of the free zones of terrorism which export terrorism to the world." He was not specific.

"The world has to know that dealing with militias will serve neither Lebanon nor those states which deal with militias," he said.

Mr. Gemayel denied reports that he had asked King Hussein to dispatch troops to Lebanon to attempt to enforce security in Beirut, but said the Jordanian monarch had taken up the issue with Syrian President Hafez Assad.

He described his own meeting with Mr. Assad on the fringes of the pan-Islamic summit conference in Kuwait last month as "positive," saying "a special relationship exists between Lebanon and Syria because of the geographical proximity and historical links."

Mr. Gemayel also said his

country maintained strong links with the Gulf Arab states led by Saudi Arabia.

He denounced the war waged by the Amal militia against Palestinian camps in Lebanon. "The fighting against the camps, like any other shedding of Arab blood over Lebanese territory, should be condemned and denounced," he said.

"Lebanon as an Arab country considers the Palestinian question the pivotal pan-Arab cause," he said.

Mr. Gemayel appealed to Europe for urgent aid similar to the American-sponsored Marshall Plan to reconstruct the European economy after the World War II.

Mr. Gemayel said a Marshall Plan was needed "now, and not tomorrow" for his war-torn country. "If they (European states) do not help Lebanon now, at what time will they help it?"

He said he had visited Arab countries to seek political and economic support for Lebanon, but gave no details of whom he approached or of the response.

Mr. Gemayel said he was seeking political backing from East to West, and especially from member states of the United Nations Security Council, to ensure a permanent withdrawal by Israeli forces from South Lebanon.

## Mousavi: TV satire will damage ties with Bonn

LONDON (R) — Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi said Wednesday a West German television satire on Iran's spiritual leader would have extremely unfavourable effects on relations between the two countries, Tehran Radio reported.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said Mr. Mousavi described the programme satirising Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as a hostile action on the part of Bonn.

The BBC also reported the Iranian News Agency IRNA as saying the authorities Wednesday closed down West Germany's Goethe Institute — cultural centre — in Tehran after expelling two Bonn diplomats in retaliation for the programme.

The programme aired on Sunday depicted Khomeini receiving gifts of women's underwear on the eighth anniversary of the Islamic revolution earlier this month.

"This hostile action by the German government, which stems from its racist and fascist policies, will naturally lead to the anger of Muslim nations. It has had extremely unfavourable effects on relations between the two countries."

He said the screening of the satire would lead to "fundamental decisions relating to cultural, economic and political relations" with West Germany.

IRNA, reporting the closing of the Goethe Institute, quoted an Information Ministry statement as saying the programme was "an open insult to the sanctities of the Islamic revolution of Iran."

Tehran Radio said a Parliamentary Committee had demanded a formal apology from Bonn, or else trade and economic links could suffer.

In a dispatch from Bonn, IRNA said Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Javad Salari lodged a strong protest with the government there Tuesday.

The agency quoted West German Deputy Foreign Minister Jorgens Mollmann as expressing the government's regret and saying the control over radio and television was limited.

## U.S. congressman ends Iraq visit

BAGHDAD (R) — U.S. Congressman Boh Torricelli Wednesday ended a four-day visit to Baghdad during which he urged Western nations to tilt their policies in the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war towards Iraq.

Mr. Torricelli, a New Jersey Democrat, said in a departure statement he was convinced that the United States and Iraq shared important interests in the Gulf region, most importantly in ensuring its long-term security and development.

He expressed hope that exchanges would continue between U.S. and Iraqi officials "so that we can work together to bring this terrible conflict, already the longest war of this century, to a rapid conclusion."

Mr. Torricelli told reporters earlier that American and European interests coincided in wanting to prevent an Iranian victory in the war.

Iran posed a threat not only to Iraq but also to other countries in the Gulf region which provided a large proportion of the West's oil, he said.

## Rebels kill 9 Iranian guards

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian opposition guerrillas said Wednesday they killed nine government Revolutionary Guards in two attacks in the north eastern city of Mashhad last week.

The People's Mujahadeen said its fighters attacked a detention and "torture" centre in the city on Feb. 11, killing six of the guards.

The day before, guerrillas killed three guards in an attack on a motorised patrol in the city, according to a statement teleaxed to the Associated Press from the Mujahadeen office in Baghdad.

The group, the largest battling the Islamic government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, said none of its fighters were wounded. It did not say what weapons were used.

The Mujahadeen has reported an increased in attacks on government officials since the beginning of the month.

It said earlier that it killed Ali Iramanesh, whom it described as Khomeini's representative and "one of the principal agents of suppression and war" in the south central city of Kerman.

The Iranian government has confirmed that Hadi Khamenei, the brother of President Ali Khamenei, was wounded in an attack by the Mujahadeen.

## Libyan TV shows executions of 9 people

LONDON (Agencies) — Libyan television broadcast the execution of nine people — six by hanging and three by firing squad — and said some of those killed had plotted to assassinate "Soviet experts" in Libya.

The broadcast, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), did not make clear whether any of the assassinations plots had succeeded.

As the executions were shown an official of Benghazi People's Congress read out the sentences, which had been passed by the "Revolutionary Court."

One of the six who were hanged had taken part in "a number of meetings with the intention of assassinating Soviet experts," the Libyan broadcast said, and he and another had taken part in a meeting "in which the resolution to assassinate the

Soviet experts was adopted."

Another knew of the group's intention to assassinate Soviet experts and yet another had been selected, "together with a group," to carry out the killings.

Four of those hanged were reported to have been involved in the "Al Jihad" organisation, which was "hostile to the people's authority."

One had been elected the organisation's "Amir" and had taken part in "preparing assassinations and blowing up of important persons and places."

Meanwhile a Libyan opposition leader said Wednesday that nine men executed in Libya represented small resistance cells fighting against Soviet advisers.

Abdul Hamid Bakoush, one of Libya's last prime ministers before Col. Qadhafi's coup in 1969, said the nine had no affiliation with anti-Qadhafi groups outside the country.

Mr. Bakoush, who lives in Cairo, heads the Libyan Liberation Organisation. He and other opposition leaders in Egyptian exile have been targets of abortive assassination attempts by alleged Col. Qadhafi agents.

"I believe that these men belonged to separate small resistance groups, which have no connection with any (opposition) groups outside of Libya," Mr. Bakoush told the Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"I think the charges that they were plotting to assassinate Soviet experts are trumped up, because the Libyan opposition does not have time to bother with the Soviets. They have to concentrate their work against Qadhafi."

## Arabs arrested in U.S. to be released on bail

LOS ANGELES (R) — Seven Arabs and a Kenyan woman accused of being members of a Palestinian commando group were ordered to be released on bail shortly before they were to have faced a deportation hearing.

The U.S. government claims the eight belong to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which it says advocates Communism. Lawyers for the eight denied Tuesday their clients belonged to the group.

The government is seeking to deport them. The deportation hearing was postponed until April 28. Seven have been in jail since their arrest on Jan. 26 and the eighth was arrested last week.

"We believe this is a test case by which the government, if successful, would allow the Immigration and Naturalisation Service to target other minorities in the United States," said one of their lawyers, Dan Storrer.

Lawyers for the eight, who have been living in the Los Angeles area, claim they are victims of political persecution.

They say the government is trying to revive a 1952 law which would allow the deportation of anyone accused of being affiliated with an organisation advocating "world Communism."

Immigration Judge Roy Daniel said all eight applied to have substantial equity in the United States and should be released on bail.

Five were ordered to be released on their own recognisance and the remaining three on bail of \$300, \$2,000 and \$3,000.

## Defence in Demjanjuk trial challenges testimony

TEL AVIV (R) — The defence in the Nazi war crimes trial of John Demjanjuk Wednesday challenged the ability of witnesses to testify accurately on the killing of six million people more than 40 years after the Holocaust.

Yitzhak Arad, director of Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, admitted during cross examination by defence lawyer Mark O'Connor that he was unsure of the exact location of a "hanging tree" and other structures in Treblinka death camp.

Demjanjuk, 66, is accused of killing hundreds of thousands of people at the camp in Nazi-occupied Poland in World War II as a Ukrainian guard nicknamed Ivan the Terrible. The former car worker extradited from the Un-

ited States could face the death penalty if convicted.

Mr. O'Connor said that if Arad, a survivor of the Nazi Holocaust and author of a book on Treblinka, was uncertain of details, how could less expert witnesses be expected to give accurate testimony.

Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk says he is a victim of mistaken identity and was never at Treblinka. The prosecution said he operated its gas chambers and tortured inmates.

Asked about his inability to pinpoint various structures at Treblinka, Arad told the court: "Twenty metres north or south was not important to my research. I was not there. I cannot testify about these points."

## British women, held in Cairo, deny knowledge of heroin in luggage

CAIRO (R) — Two British sisters appeared before Egypt's prosecutor-general Wednesday and denied any knowledge of heroin found in their luggage. British embassy officials said.

Marion Arnold, 42, and Maureen Carol Paisley, 49, from Hampshire, were arrested on Sunday after they flew in from Bucharest and six kilos (13 pounds) of heroin was discovered inside a wooden elephant in their luggage.

The embassy officials quoted them as saying an Egyptian friend gave them the elephant in Karachi and they knew nothing about the heroin, which newspapers say has a street value of \$4

million. The two women were remanded in custody for a week, with no charges laid, after defence lawyers asked for more time to study the case. They are due to appear in court again on Feb. 25.

And-narcotics police arrested Arnold, a mother of three, and Paisley with at least three Egyptians who met them outside Cairo airport after they had cleared customs.

The semi-official newspaper Al Ahram said on Monday police had been closely watching for six months the movements of what it said was an Egyptian drug smuggling ring with international connections.

Meanwhile two Egyptians were convicted by a Larinaca court in Cyprus Wednesday of supplying half a kilogram (one pound) of heroin to two Europeans who were imprisoned last month.

Moussa Al Hady Hagag, 26, a restaurateur, was jailed for seven years and Mohamed Dewedar, 35, a mechanical engineer, for five years. They had denied charges of possessing and supplying heroin.

The court last month jailed Walter Wilhelm Schaffer, 40, a businessman from Stuttgart, West Germany, for three and a half years and Diana Mary Ward, 39, from Oxford, England, for two and a half years.

### TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel 77111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:55	Programme Review
16:20	Children programmes
17:00	Huddley Fin
17:35	Local Health programme
18:00	Teaching French
18:30	Local contacts programme
19:30	News programme
19:50	Programme Review and varieties
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:25	Tomorrow's programmes
21:30	Arabic film
22:30	News Summary in Arabic
23:10	Film continued
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Champs Elysees
19:00	News in French
19:30	La valle des peupliers
19:50	News in Hebrew
20:00	World Sports
20:30	News in Arabic
21:00	Paul Daniel Show
21:10	Remington Steele
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film: "The Heart and Davies Affairs"
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 850 KHz, SW	
Tel 77111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:05	Morning Show Contd.
11:30	Hillville: The story of Hillville
12:00	News Summary
12:05	Now Music
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session
14:00	News bulletin
14:10	Instruments
14:30	Just a Minute
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instruments
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	The Musical Review
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Special Feature
18:30	Music
19:00	News
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show

### WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
all week 9:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An exhibition entitled "Bezdikhan" at the French Cultural Centre (until Feb. 28).	
* The Goethe Institute presents an exhibition entitled "Six Centuries of German Woodcut Art" at the Petra Bank Gallery - Wadi Saqra (until Feb. 22).	
* Fine arts exhibition by Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Feb. 23).	
* An art exhibition by Mohammad Mousa and Mounira Al Tounia at the Housing Bank Centre Gallery.	
FILMS	
* A Japanese film entitled "San Juro" (drama) at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
* A lecture film entitled "Barboursa" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.	
CINEMA	
* "Carmen" at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and "O'Clock" at 7:30 p.m. on Friday at the French Cultural Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267	
American Centre Library .. 644371	
British Cultural Centre .. 6301478	
French Cultural Centre .. 637009	
Goethe Institute .. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre .. 6301478	
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 637777	
Yafa Arts Centre .. 665195	
Hussein Youth City .. 6671816	
Y.W.M.C.A. .. 641793	
Amman Municipal Library .. 636111	
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843553	
MUSEUMS	
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium. Open	

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:00	Agaba (RJ)
09:20	Chania (RJ)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
10:05	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:10	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15	Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
10:30	Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
10:55	London (RJ)
11:25	New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:35	Athens (RJ)
11:45	Beirut, Larnaca (RJ)
11:55	Rome (RJ)
12:00	Baghdad (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
06:00	Damascus, Athens (OA)
06:05	Damascus, Paris (AF)
13:30	Tripoli (LN)
13:35	Baghdad (JA)
14:00	Bahrain, Doha (GF)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
16:00	Riyadh (SV)
20:00	Sana'a (LS)
20:20	Cairo (MS)
20:30	London (MS)
DEPARTURES	
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:00	Agaba (RJ)
09:20	Chania (RJ)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
10:05	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:10	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15	Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
10:30	Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
10:55	London (RJ)
11:25	New York, Vienna (RJ)
11:35	Athens (RJ)
11:45	Beirut, Larnaca (RJ)
11:55	Rome (RJ)
12:00	Baghdad (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
06:00	Damascus, Athens (OA)
06:05	Damascus, Paris (AF)
13:30	Tripoli (LN)
13:35	Baghdad (JA)
14:00	Bahrain, Doha (GF)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
16:00	Riyadh (SV)
20:00	Sana'a (LS)
20:20	Cairo (MS)
20:30	London (MS)

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

## EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate ..	891228
Amman Civil Defence ..	198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid ..	271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quseiq ..	770733
Civil Defence Dera Aila ..	57306
Ambulance ..	193, 773111
Amman downtown fire brigade ..	198
First aid ..	630341
Blood Bank ..	778393
Civil Defence ..	661111
Fire headquarters ..	620943
Police rescue ..	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters ..	639141
Traffic police ..	8963901
Electric Power Co. ..	636314, 62481
Municipal water complaints ..	7711258
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)533060	

## HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre ..	81381332
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. ..	6442516
Akshik Maternity, J. Amn. ..	642412
Jabal Amman Maternity ..	642362
Malhas, J. Amman ..	636140
Palestine, Shuqban ..	664714
Shuqban Hospital ..	669313
University Hospital ..	645845
Al-Muhsin Hospital ..	667279
The Islamic, Abdali ..	66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..	661646
Al-Bashir, Al-Mohajreen ..	771015
Al-Bashir, Ashrafieh ..	77511275
Army, Marfa ..	89161175
Queen Alia Hospital ..	60224030
Amal Hospital ..	674155

## GENERAL

Jordan Television ..	773119
Radio Jordan ..	7741119
Ministry of Tourism ..	642311
Hotel complaints ..	666172
Price complaints ..	661176
Telephone Information ..	12
Jordan and Middle East calls ..	10
Overseas calls ..	17
Repair service ..	11

## NIGHT DUTY

### AMMAN:

Dr. Awad Hawandeh ..	771665
Dr. Tawfiq Qubani ..	663029
Salam Pharmacy ..	636730
Naima Pharmacy ..	726672
Khalid pharmacy ..	778633
Firas pharmacy ..	661912
Sabeh pharmacy ..	668056

### TAKHS:

Al Walda taxi ..	641833
Khalid taxi ..	666888
Bassam taxi ..	811857
Ali taxi ..	621127
Hayat taxi ..	617411
Balunah taxi ..	845230
Bahrain taxi ..	773034
Mashhour taxi ..	896743

### IRBID:

Al-Ahli Omari ..	772032
Razi pharmacy ..	(-)
Shara's pharmacy ..	(-)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Marwan Hejwaji ..	981217
Belal pharmacy ..	(-)

# MARKET PRICES

Upperclothes price in file per kg.	
Apple (All kinds) ..	200 / 240
Apple ..	400 / 270
Banana (Mukammal) ..	270 / 220
Beans ..	450 / 400
Black Beans ..	140 / 100
Boron ..	100 / 100
Cabbage ..	60 / 40
Carrot (black) ..	150 / 120
Carrot (yellow) ..	110 / 80
Cauliflower ..	120 / 90
Chickpeas (white) ..	8910115
Chestnut ..	380 / 300
Cucumbers ..	190 / 140
Eggplant (small) ..	170 / 130
Eggplant (large) ..	170 / 130

Garlic ..	400 / 300
Grainfruit ..	130 / 100
Green ..	90 / 70
Horseradish ..	140 / 100
Onion (dry) ..	180 / 140
Onion (green) ..	180 / 140
Orange (Al-Sura) ..	260 / 200
Orange (Shamoun) ..	240 / 200
Pean ..	350 / 300
Pepper (hot) ..	350 / 300
Pepper (sweet) ..	240 / 180
Potatoes ..	210 / 170
Raddish ..	100 / 70
Spinach ..	60 / 40
Tomatoes ..	90 / 50



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Canadian parliamentarians due Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — A Canadian parliamentary delegation is due in Amman on Saturday for a week-long visit to Jordan at the invitation of Parliament. During the visit, the delegation will meet Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayez and senior officials to review current international issues of common interest, especially the situation in the Middle East region, the Iran-Iraq war, and bilateral relations. The Canadian delegation will also visit tourist and archaeological sites and a Palestinian refugee camp in Jordan.

## Dudin briefs former U.S. official

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin on Wednesday conferred in his office with Mr. Michael Sterner, former U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, who arrived in Amman on Tuesday. The minister briefed Mr. Sterner on the situation in the occupied Arab territories and Jordan's efforts to extend help to the Arab population through implementing the five-year economic and social plan. Mr. Dudin said that the plan forms part of Jordan's continued help to the inhabitants of the Israeli-held Arab territories and is designed to benefit a larger sector of the population.

## Health council to convene Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Health Council will hold a meeting next Monday under the chairmanship of Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh. During Monday's session, the council will discuss a number of issues on modernising and developing medical methods employed at all medical institutions in Jordan. The council will also discuss final recommendations on organising emergency first aid operations. The recommendations were formulated by a joint committee set up by the council. Also on the agenda is a health insurance plan for approximately one million private sector personnel.

## Seminar on narcotics slated for Feb. 28

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh will open a seminar on narcotics and their effects on Feb. 28. During the seminar, to be organised by the Arab women graduates club, working papers presented by specialists on narcotics will be discussed with an emphasis on the social effects of drug taking and means to prevent addiction.

## Embezzler receives 18 months

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Mahmud Shanwan to 18 months imprisonment and the payment of JD 105 for embezzling public funds. The military governor endorsed the sentence on Tuesday.

## PSD requests Arab nationals to obtain registration cards

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab nationals who had been living and working in Jordan without permits before Feb. 1, 1987, have been asked to report to security centres around the country to obtain reference cards in accordance with new regulations issued by the Public Security Department (PSD).

A statement from the PSD said that the nationals in question should obtain their cards before the end of April, 1987. The statement said that security centres operate 24 hours a day and Arab nationals can call at any time after office hours to come for their registration and obtain cards. The statement said that Arab nationals visiting Jordan should report to security centres to register any extension of their

staying in the Kingdom within two weeks after their arrival here.

On Feb. 1, the PSD issued a new set of regulations governing the entry and registration of Arabs and foreigners in the Kingdom. The regulations, it said, were designed to organise the entry, registration and departure of both Arab and foreign nationals from and to Jordan to provide accurate data on them.

According to the new regulations, Arabs exempt from acquiring visas or permits will be issued special cards which they have to produce at the nearest police station regularly throughout their stay in the Kingdom. These cards will have to be returned to border posts upon their departure from the country.

## Hmoud holds talks with Syrian team on agricultural cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud on Wednesday held a meeting with Dr. Yahya Bakkour, president of the Syrian Agricultural Engineers Association and the accompanying delegation for discussions on subjects related to the development of agricultural cooperation between Jordan and Syria.

During the meeting, the minister underlined the importance of giving more attention to agricultural development in the Arab World, noting that agriculture forms the backbone of the Arab World's economy.

He said that Arab agricultural associations could play an important role in achieving Arab agricultural integration and could also be instrumental in implementing joint Arab agricultural projects towards ensuring food security for the Arab World. Mr. Hmoud went on to say that Jordan is now exploiting underground water resources with the purpose of irrigating new agricultural areas, especially in the south and south eastern regions of the Kingdom.

Jordan has also taken practical steps towards implementing its share of the Hamad Basin project, near the border with Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia, the minister continued.

Dr. Bakkour for his part underlined the importance of the agricultural sector in the national Arab economy and he called for further agricultural coordination among Arab countries to ensure food security. He also urged that further facilities be given to ensure the free flow of agricultural products within the Arab World in accordance with the principles of the Arab Common Market.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi and the president of the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Association. The Syrian delegation, which arrived here Tuesday on a four-day visit, is expected to tour agricultural projects in Jordan and hold talks with other officials.

## Amman school to host third IBO conference and workshop

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) will be holding the third of its conferences and workshop sessions for IB schools in the Middle East in Amman during April this year. The conference will be hosted by the Amman Baccalaureate School (ABS), and participants from IB schools in most Middle East countries are expected to attend, along with other delegates from IB schools worldwide. The IBO's last Middle East conference, held in Amman in October 1985, was also hosted by the ABS.

This year's conference will aim to cater for the growing interest in the International Baccalaureate system in Middle East schools. The workshops are in-

teended to assist teachers who have limited experience to teaching the IB programme, and will cover a wide range of subjects, notably Arabic language, and Islamic studies.

The ABS has played an important role in pioneering work on the IB's Islamic studies syllabus, which is currently in the last stages of ratification. The school, which has recently changed its name from the International Baccalaureate School in accordance with the IBO's policy that there should be a clear distinction between the name of the programme and the name of the school offering it, will be represented at the IBO Heads of Schools Conference in Washington next week.

## Ministry regulates hiring of Egyptian workers

AMMAN (Petra) — All Egyptian workers arriving for employment in the Kingdom should from now on obtain the approval of the Jordanian Ministry of Labour through their would-be employers. Under Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development Mansour Utom announced on Wednesday.

Dr. Utom, made his statement in the presence of Mr. Muhammad Abdul Razzaq, the labour attaché at the Egyptian embassy in Amman, and said that the procedure is in implementation of an agreement reached between the Ministry of Labour and Egyptian officials during the minister's visit to Cairo last year.

From now on, business owners and employers in Jordan wishing to employ Egyptians should submit requests to this effect together with a contract for employment to the Ministry of Labour for approval. If this approval is given the forms would then be referred to the Egyptian embassy in Amman for finalising procedures before the workers arrive in the Kingdom. Dr. Utom explained.

He said that the new regulation, which were put into effect at the beginning of 1987, stipulate that no work permit will be issued to an Egyptian unless the contract for employment has been secured and the procedures completed in advance.

## Work permits

As to Egyptian workers living and working in Jordan before Jan. 1, 1987 and holding work permits issued before that date, they will be exempted from the new procedures and their work permits will be renewed in the light of the need for their work and the labour market situation in the Kingdom, Dr. Utom continued.

He said that Egyptian workers who had been in Jordan before the beginning of 1987 but without work permits will have to rectify their position by March 31, but these workers will not be requested to obtain new contracts for work. "According to Dr. Utom, all Egyptian workers will be requested to report to security centres, as do other Arab nationals living in Jordan, to obtain reference cards before the end of April.

## Rifai receives North Yemeni deputy prime minister

Iryani meets senior officials for discussions on bilateral cooperation in education, culture and energy

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Wednesday received North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani who arrived here on Tuesday.

They reviewed bilateral relations and means of further bolstering and strengthening these relations in all fields. Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri and North Yemen's Ambassador in Amman Ali Abdullah attended the meeting.

Also Monday, Minister of Education Thounan Al Hindawi received Dr. Iryani. During the meeting they reviewed existing cultural relations and means of further developing them, especially in the educational and curricula fields. The two sides also discussed the possibility of meeting North Yemen's needs for Jordanian teachers and the exchange of curricula, school books and experts on education and teacher training. A total of 171 Jordanian teachers are currently working in North Yemen.

The meeting was attended by the ministry's secretary general Ahmad Al Bashairah and a number of ministry officials as well as North Yemen's ambassador in Amman.

The North Yemeni guest later paid a visit to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) where he met with Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib. Dr. Khatib reviewed his ministry's activities and programmes in the fields of energy conservation, planning and the rationalisation of energy which, he said, resulted in a decrease in the demand for energy in Jordan. The minister also pointed out that intensive studies are being conducted for exploiting solar energy and that

the ministry is going ahead with plans to utilise new energy sources such as wind energy.

Dr. Khatib also outlined the ministry's programmes to prospect for oil and minerals in Jordan. He expressed Jordan's readiness to strengthen and further develop joint cooperation with North Yemen in energy and electricity fields and in exchange experiences in these fields.

JEA Acting Director Walid Al Jaouni explained JEA's various activities, projects and future plans and the use of computers in its technical, administrative and financial activities. He added that JEA has recently installed a new computer network which will connect all JEA sites as part of the expansion in its work. This computer system is the first of its kind in the Middle East.

Mr. Jaouni also spoke about JEA's current projects through which it supplies electricity to various regions of the country. He reviewed cooperation with the North Yemeni electricity corporation in the training of Yemeni technicians at the authority's training centres and present negotiations for cooperation in setting up a computer department for use in technical, financial and administrative systems at North Yemen's electricity corporation.

Dr. Iryani stressed the importance of strengthening existing cooperation between the two countries in energy and electricity fields. He also toured various departments at the ministry and the JEA.

Also on Wednesday Dr. Iryani visited the industrial estate at Sahah where he was briefed by the director general of the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) Dr. Fayez Suheimat on the development, goals and projects of industrial estates and their role in industrial development in the country. Dr. Suheimat reviewed exemptions and incentives offered to industrial projects which are set up at industrial estates. Dr. Iryani toured the industrial estate and inspected the various industries there.

## Romanian speaker ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. Nikolai Giossan, president of Romania's National Assembly, left for Syria via Ramtha on Wednesday at the end of a four-day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Hussein and Jordanian officials.

The Romanian official was seen off at the border post by members of the Upper House of Parliament and Romania's ambassador to Jordan.

On the last day of his visit, Mr. Giossan called at the King Abdullah Martyrs' Mosque in Amman and toured its different sections. Mr. Giossan was met by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and other officials who briefed the visitor on the Islamic architectural style used in building the mosque which cost \$10 million.

Later on Wednesday Mr. Giossan and his delegation, accompanied by Speaker of the Upper House Ahmad Al Lawzi, visited the University of Jordan and met with its president, Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali. They reviewed educational development in Jordan and the university's programmes. Mr. Giossan expressed hope that cultural and educational cooperation between Jordan and Romania would be bolstered in the interests of both countries. Mr. Giossan and his delegation toured the campus and were briefed on different activities at the university.

## Au revoir to first secretary

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Patrice Paoli, first secretary at the French Embassy in Amman, leaves his post here on Thursday to join the Middle East section of the French mission at the United Nations.

"I have spent the most interesting four years of my political career in this country," Mr. Paoli said in a recent interview. Mr. Paoli started his political career in 1980 at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs before he was assigned to join the French diplomatic mission in the Kingdom. Mr. Paoli, his wife and two children will be flying out of Amman Thursday.

On Tuesday evening, French



Patrice Paoli  
Ambassador Patrick Leclercq held a farewell reception for Mr. Paoli.

## Woodcut — historic, unfamiliar art form bounces back

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Every few months the Goethe Institute treats us to one of its unusual exhibitions. Unusual because their exhibitions almost always have a theme that is slightly unfamiliar to most of us. Last June the institute brought a photographic exhibition. Nothing unusual about that, except that cleverly they were photographs of artists at work in their studios. Then it was the strange sculptures made of everything from foam rubber to light switches, followed by an exhibition of cartoons about the architectural profession.

The latest in this series of exhibits from the Goethe Institute about the now seldom practised media of the wood cut on the Petra Bank Art Gallery this week is therefore no exception. Entitled "Six Centuries of German woodcut art" it traces, by a series of extensively annotated posters, the development of the technique in the West from its early beginnings in the 15th Century to the present day.

The technique of cutting away wood from a finger thick plank to leave only the lines of a design in relief which was then inked and unprinted onto a sheet of moistened paper was first developed in the southern part of the old German empire, which included Austria and Switzerland around the year 1400, although of course in China the art of wood engraving had already been practised during the Tang dynasty (618-907).

A reproduction of one of the earliest woodcuts still in existence is of St. Dorothy. Dating from 1410, its gentle simplicity is enhanced by the flowing, sinuous lines which are characteristic of the "soft style" in the visual arts during the early 15th Century. This woodcut, along with that of "Christ in the wine press" are typical of the devotional broad-



The four horsemen of the Apocalypse — a complex, detailed image in wood.

sheets the woodcut was usually used to produce at that time.

## 'Block books'

Slightly later, the woodcut was used for making books. For a block book as they were called, both text and illustrations were engraved onto the same woodblock for simultaneous printing. This was the earliest form of printing ever to be used and because only one side of a sheet of a paper could be printed, the blank sides were pasted together

resulting for the first time in a printed book with running text and illustrations. An example of such a book — the "Book of the Planets" is reproduced, along with pages from other incunabula — the Latin term applied to books printed prior to 1500.

It was the German artist Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528) who brought the technique of woodcuts to a fine art around the turn of the Century (1500). The reproductions of his woodcuts at the exhibition show the tremendous

leap the art form took under his genius, from slightly simple, naive drawings to highly complex pieces as excellently rendered as any Italian Renaissance oil which had influenced Dürer greatly. "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" is a masterpiece of atmosphere, tension and fine rendering.

Many woodcut artists flourished at this time and the reproductions of their work at the exhibition show the many different styles and techniques these artists played around with. It is also interesting to note that it was around this time — the 1530's — that fly sheets were used for the first time to inform the public of extraordinary events.

## Rediscovering the woodcut

For two centuries, roughly from 1600-1800, the woodcut was pushed into the background by copperplate printing and etching and although the art form was being revived by 1800, it was not until the expressionists rediscovered it (around 1911), that the woodcut as an art form really made a come-back in popularity. Emil Nolde, Erich Heckel, Karl Schmidt-Rottluff and others were all in some degree or another fascinated by the singular black and white effect of the technique which is enhanced by the natural grain of the wood.

In the second half of the 20th Century, the woodcut is still important to many artists who are "seeking to discover an organic relationship with the peculiar nature of wood as a natural product, from which they can draw inspiration." One of these artists is H.A.P. Grieshaber who created monumental prints and murals from huge woodblocks. The exhibition ends with reproductions of the woodcuts of two of Germany's most famous contemporary artists, Georg Baselitz and A.R. Penck. The exhibition runs until Feb. 22.

## U.S. presently unable to activate any peace initiative on Mideast, former official says

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — It is difficult for the U.S. administration to initiate solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict since the secretary of state's position has been strengthened and the national security staff has been "cleaned out," said former U.S. ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Michael Sterner. Comments and questions followed a lecture Mr. Sterner delivered entitled "The U.S. political agenda for the Middle East 1987-88." A member of the audience commented that in the absence of action and achievement on the part of the U.S. regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict, isn't the U.S. inviting Arab anti-American feeling and terrorism — which is a manifestation of disillusionment? — another added that "when one looks at the U.S. policy, the real thing is that whatever has to do with Israel was cooked in Israeli kitchens and fed to the U.S."

In response the ambassador spoke of the theory of American effectiveness and said: "There is always a very effective American role for negotiations when more is going on in active diplomacy. During these times the U.S. finds it can do more, bring influence to the parties and persuade Israel to do things it normally would not do." He said that now it is difficult for the president to have an effect because the issue has gone "cold." "The present administration has attempted several times to make headway. For example, American forces were sent to Lebanon in 1982 and the same year the Reagan plan was introduced," and yet no progress, said the former deputy assistant secretary of state.

## U.S.-Israeli relations

"Conversely when nothing is going on, the U.S. and Israel grow closer and the U.S. tends to neglect U.S.-Arab relations. There seems to be some kind of iron law on how the situation works," said Mr. Sterner. He added that there is a more positive aspect to the Arab-Israeli conflict since the secretary of state's position has been strengthened and the national security staff has been "cleaned out." "For the next two years I can say that no more clandestine operations will take place from the White House, nor will any decisions be taken" without prior knowledge of Congress, he said.

Addressing an invited audience of the Jordan Centre for Studies and Information at the Marriott Hotel on Tuesday evening, the ambassador answered several questions on the peace process, arms shipments to Iran, the Gulf war and American diplomacy in the region.

Mr. Sterner dismissed the "great disposition in this part of the world to blame the U.S. for everything that goes wrong." He said that the U.S. has made errors in that it has not been as energetic as it should have been nor has it used its influence over Israel enough "but, there have also been major failures in Arab leaderships."

He referred to the President Reagan's speech in 1982 "I think it was a strong speech and had many good points — among them the American commitment that the land of the West Bank should be returned to the Arabs sometime in the future," said Mr. Sterner. "I do not think the U.S. can be held (responsible) for this failure as much as the PLO. (Yasser) Arafat wanted to move in this direction and could not move his executive committee with him. He (Arafat) has proved over the years that he wants to keep his organisation together more than doing something for the Palestinian people."

Referring to the work of lawyers and the judicial system in Jordan, Mr. Hikmat said they are well respected and that the laws and regulations have been developed to adapt to economic and social changes in society.

Members of the public's rights and in settling disputes in addition to the major role it plays in modern commerce and industry, banking and trade deals.

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## Questions from the audience

Responding to another question of "why arms to Khomeini and not to Hussein when it appears that Washington's solution is to send arms to friends and send arms to enemies to make them friends," Mr. Sterner

said that he was angered by Congress's decision not to send arms to Jordan, as Jordan has played a major role in the peace process. "However many in Congress do not feel this way," he said, adding that he has reservations about the current trend of solving problems through arms shipments. However, he did say: "Foreign policy needs a strong military component."

A member of the audience commented: "Upon reading ex-President Roosevelt comment 'speak softly and carry a big stick,' one felt repulsed but after seeing U.S. policy world-wide this statement is a delicacy as the U.S. is not only not speaking softly but waving the stick every time someone does not do what they want."

Another guest member said that "no slogans have been raised asking the U.S. to help nor to aggravate the situation, but because the American government has already aggravated the situation, Arabs feel it is the duty of the U.S. to solve it." The ambassador expressed his dismay at the decreasing popularity of Americans among the Arab people, even though good relations exist with the Arab governments "something of the reverse of the situation in the 1950's."

## Irangate

On his country's stance towards Iran, Mr. Sterner said that

"Irangate came about as a result of a bad decision based on bad advice." He explained that the idea of negotiations evolved as early as 1984 for strategic reasons. "The basic objections to the idea was that it was premature and if there was any leak it would complicate the U.S. policy which was to stop the war."

"However, the theory found ground in the national security office because the people there were feeling the heat regarding the release of hostages and thought that the people in Iran would help the hostages in Lebanon," he said, adding that Israel gave advice and introduced the Americans to the "right people." Israel was also the country to tell the U.S. that Iran wanted arms in exchange.

Responding to comments from the audience, the ambassador said: "The contradictions in Irangate were the worst thing and it will take time to resume our credibility" in the region. He added that involving Israel was "another very bad aspect. We should not have used Israel as our surrogate."

Mr. Sterner said that if negotiations between the U.S. and Iran had remained at the dialogue level "it would not have caused a scandal. I think this was an exceptional episode in American policy." Later, he added that if the individuals involved exploited the steps they were planning to take "this policy would have been accepted."

## ON BEHALF OF THE LATE

## Martha Beaumont Abdel-Razzak

The Iqtisadats, their relatives and in-laws in the two Banks of Jordan and overseas, as well as the American community in Jordan express their heartfelt gratitude to all those who have supported them in their time of grief. The enormous expressions of sympathy and condolences are greatly appreciated. A further thanks is expressed to all those who donated blood for Martha and to those who assisted them in doing so.

"May God Bless Them for their generosity and keep them under His merciful protection."



## Jordan Times

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Editor-in-Chief: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

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### Warning signs

MOST certainly not brethren in Gaza who have been protesting violently against the Amal siege of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon were driven into such demonstration of solidarity with their kinsmen by the inhuman and degrading treatment accorded the Palestinian refugees by the Amal militiamen. The trickle of food and medical supplies allowed into the refugee camps after three months of stiff blockade has not lessened the outrage of the Palestinian and Arab peoples everywhere. Yet we think the real cause for the Palestinian show of anger and frustration is the continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory and the persisting stalemate in the peace process in the Middle East. When the Gazans wave Palestinian flags and shout slogans in support of the residents of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, they are in fact seizing the occasion to let off steam from their hearts and minds, angered and frustrated by the continued Israeli aggression and occupation. The siege of the refugee camps in Lebanon is the fuse which could trigger the already heated psyche and souls of the Palestinian people who have been under siege for decades by the Israeli occupation and aggression.

Now that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is in Washington making sure the U.S. does not support the convening of an international peace conference on the Palestinian conflict, the U.S. must be asked to reflect afresh on the possible consequences of its succumbing to Israeli pressure. Israel wants to make sure that concerned Arab parties engage in direct talks with it. If the Israeli prime minister leaves the U.S. full-handed on this point, the violence we see now in the occupied territories will surely soar, increase and the problems compound.

Last week, the Syrian people in the Golan Heights demonstrated violently against the Israeli occupation. Now, the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, as well as in the West Bank, are also protesting aggressively against Israel. The chain of protests and demonstrations against Israeli occupation of all occupied territories is growing and becoming interconnected. This is a clear and straight forward message to the Reagan administration. The U.S. should rebuff Mr. Shamir's call to put the Palestinian conflict on hold, and not believe Israeli claims that all is calm and normal in the occupied territories.

#### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Real resistance continues

IN the face of Israel's continued brutal and inhuman treatment, the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories have now escalated their acts of resistance and are continuing to confront the bullets and the siege with courage and daring counter-attacks and violent demonstrations. The Arab inhabitants are thwarting Israel's aims of evicting the Arab people from their homeland and are rejecting the occupation rule that has lasted since 1967. In fact, the Arab people of the occupied territories have been on and off carrying out such resistance activity since the very first days of occupation, because they totally reject the idea of kneeling before the invaders and succumbing to humiliation and acts of intimidation and terrorism. Therefore, any move by Israel to consolidate its existence in the Arab land is doomed to failure, and its continued arbitrary actions are bound to draw very strong and fierce reaction. The demonstrators in the streets of Palestinian cities were born under Israeli rule, and they feel the bitterness of the invasion and repression, and therefore they have risen against the invaders and their repressive rule. These demonstrators are continually making successes, and proving that they continue to cling to their homeland and their rights; and above all that they are determined to abort all Israeli plans. For this reason, all the Israeli military successes over the Arabs since 1948 can achieve nothing, and can bring no peace or stability to the Jewish state.

#### Al Dustour: Lebanese strife widens

THE street war in Beirut has been resumed, involving various warring factions that continue to bring destruction and death to Lebanon. The resumed fighting among opposing factions and the continued bloodshed in the Lebanese capital are bound to bring more sufferings to the embattled country and more tragedies to its people. It is not important now to define those responsible for the resumed fighting or the objectives which each of the factions is driving to achieve, but it is important to know that the continued civil strife is bound to complete the destruction of that nation. The factions now involved in the fighting have lost all sense of national belonging since they seek personal aims, and they have lost all meaning of human feelings since they continue to cause death and sufferings to their countrymen. To make things even worse, the people of Lebanon are now living through a very difficult economic situation threatening the very existence of the Lebanese society. We cannot but feel pain and sympathy for the Lebanese people, the victims of the factional war and we hope that the political and religious leaders of Lebanon will take action to save their country before it is too late.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Beirut goes mad

WHAT is going on in west Beirut is more than madness, and the killing and the destruction are actions that would complete the ruin of Lebanon as a nation. The city itself has been transformed into one of ghosts, with only tanks and fighters and gunmen roaming around the devastated streets and alleys. The Lebanese who used to live in Beirut have abandoned the city either out of madness or after a tragedy, but all are determined not to return to the ruins. Death is in wait for any one who ever dares to pass the streets of west Beirut, and the city residents are shaking with fear for their lives and their families, trying to find some shelter away from the madness and the gunmen. The factions that are fighting in west Beirut are now trying to ensure their domination of their own zones, but if the fighting goes on all the factions will be out or dead, and their zones completely devastated. Whatever the result of the fighting, one thing is sure that more will die and that the fire will completely eat up the remainder of the city for which the factions are now fighting and suffering and death to many others.

# Fragments from the Palestinian dream

By Dr. Abdel Qader Yassine

VIOLENCE in both its psychological and physical forms has always dominated my life. Yet in those rare halcyon periods I experienced at times, there existed inside of me, alongside the memory of pain and devastation, an equally strong feeling of compassion, an affirmation of the possibility of human justice and freedom — denying violence a monopoly of the soul. Even as an eight year old boy, I have memories left behind. Of walking, resting, and of walking along the coast road heading to the Lebanese border for refuge with my family. My mother is with her prayer beads pleading with the deity to let us through safely. Along the way we join other groups of refugees heading in the same direction. My sister is only two years old and my mother takes her shawl, ties it in knots around her back and shoulders and puts my baby sister there. When we pass the Zionist settlements, everybody walks straight on, looking ahead of them as if by doing that we will not be seen. What are these settlements? Who are the people who live in them? Why did they choose our country to come to? Who are these people, who are they? ... Who are they?

The year before, in the village we have lived in, I keep remembering ... how the house was blown up and the family in it ran out. The woman's body burning and she clutching on to a pillow as she ran. I hear a scream. In the room that night everybody is getting up. Everybody is shouting to everybody else in the house to get up. And my brother carries a gun and leaves in a hurry. The sound of gunfire is getting louder ... closer ... and the animals in the village are running loose, down the dirt tracks, behind the houses. The Committee for the Defence of Balad Al Sheikh is giving instructions while the sky is raining fire on our village. They are here again. It is still night in the room and my mother is reciting verses from the Koran. The Stern gang are here again. There is a kind of frenzy in the Koranic words as my mother recites them. They are drowned by the sound of shouting and then I hear them, ever so loud, ever so frantic, when there is a gap, a short silence, as the firing stops for an instant. They are here ... They are killing us ... They are taking our homeland.

We left the village and went down to Haifa to live with my grandparents and uncle. My grandfather worked at the Haifa port with the British Port Authority ... and the underground. Every night he came home with guns that he would smuggle out of the gates at the port and bring home to my uncle. Guns he would steal from the officers where he worked. Guns he would buy from drunk British soldiers. Guns brought on friendly ships coming from Beirut, Latakia or Alexandria.

My uncle and brother would go off for days together. They were called the *Mujahideen*. My generation, two decades later, were to become *Fedayeen*. But everything was dying. They were only the remnants — disorganised and alone — of the 1936-1939 revolt. Outside my grandfather's house, along the highway, a group of *Mujahideen* are standing behind cement blocks. They are armed with machine guns and hand grenades and mortars. They take up their positions only minutes before the ambush starts. My uncle is running back and forth issuing instructions. The convoy of trucks arrives. Six brown trucks covered with canvas and thick rope. Heading on the road to Mount Carmel. One driver and one passenger in each. I am crouching by the window with my father's arm around my waist. Everybody in the room is watching. All at once there is machine gun fire directed at the trucks. Hand grenades explode. Bullets are fired ceaselessly for over a minute. Two of the trucks are on fire. I do not know where to look. There is something happening in all directions. To all the men. To all the trucks. I keep watching the truck nearest to the cement blocks. I see the driver with one hand on the steering wheel, the other clutching on to a pistol that he places on the outside, against the windshield. His co-driver next to him is dead, his body half out of the open door. The man now jumps out of his vehicle and takes cover behind

some of the cement blocks. He crouches there with the pistol still in his hand.

When the British soldiers arrive in their tanks and army vehicles, my uncle and his men hurry back to their homes with their weapons. There are bodies in the street. The trucks are burning. The smell of gunsmoke fills the air. The man behind the cement blocks waves to the soldiers. I see him as he walks away with them. I wave to him. I bring to endow him with a private history that I create for him. A private life that got embellished in time. His memory lived with me ever since I left Palestine in 1948. His story became longer as I grew older.

After the man was rescued by the soldiers, the tanks and army vehicles stayed behind in the neighbourhood. Soon more soldiers arrived. Hundreds of them. With their blonde hair, freckled noses and tattoos.

We hear them climbing up the stairs. My grandfather's part of the house is on the second floor of a two-storey building. We hear foreign voices. It is always foreign voices. Foreign people telling us what to do. They order us to open the door. They shout something about the authority invested in them by the King of England. That is how it was in those days — the King of England invested his people with authority to issue order in Palestine. And in India. And Africa. And Singapore. And Hong Kong.

The soldiers rush into our house. Six of them. And we are herded into one room. They ask my grandparents if they have guns around the house. We are all standing with our arms up. Only my mother looks funny. With her prayer beads over her head, uttering meaningless incantations in scare away the evil spirits. The soldiers open wardrobes, smash the dressing table, throw my grandmother's sewing machine against the wall. They wreck the place. The two soldiers who are doing most of the ransacking, are shouting abuse at the top of their voices. "Filthy wogs," they keep repeating. "Filthy wogs." All this time I am feeling nonchalant. For I had seen that, and more, done in the village. They would grab people by the hair and drag them to the centre of the square and kick them till they became unconscious. Often they took suspects with them who never returned. In the 1936-1939 revolt, before I was born, the British hanged three men from our village. Three *Mujahideen*.

Though my father was never a *Mujahid*, he transmitted their ethos to me. The mythology of the *Mujahideen* is an integral part of our oral history. Every Palestinian family has stories to recount. Every Palestinian child who sits on his parents' knees, listens entranced, to the tales of men who had defied the hated British and later the Zionists. How hands of *Mujahideen* used to come to the village during the revolt, with their guns and their checkered head-dresses and the women would come out to the square and give them flowers and bags of food and the children would point at them. A woman would stand at a close distance, put her hand over her mouth, clasp her lips with two fingers, and begin to ululate. The other women would join in and the square, the whole village, would reverberate with the sonorous sounds. The men in the village, would become reverential, their voices hushed, as they greeted the *Mujahideen*. *Ahlan Wa Sahlan. Ahlan Wa Sahlan*. And before leaving, the fighters would be joined by some of the young men from the village who would leave their fields and go off to fight in the hills.

My father never went away. He was a small shop-keeper. One day three British soldiers got off their jeep outside his shop and took him. They are drunk. One of them proceeds to abuse my father because there are files on the goods displayed in the open. How do you expect anyone to eat your rubbish with flies on it, they want to know. The other soldier takes his rifle and knocks over the bags of olives, cheese, oranges, whatever is nearest him right on the ground and jumps on it roaring with laughter. The third soldier grabs my father by the neck, throws his *hadda* (head-dress) off his head and

slaps him across the chest. And my brother became a *Mujahid* at the age of 17.

When we left Palestine, in the end, the dawn was blowing around us like the rage of God. Our city had fallen and burnt on bodies that lay supine. And the world applauded. But I do not hate. I did not hate at the age of eight. April is always a good time of the year where I was born. The sun shines and the smell of olives and oranges permeates the air. This April, in 1948, was my father's last in Palestine.

The day before we leave the city, we sit in the house off the highway and we hear foreign voices shouting into loudspeakers. Get your women and children out. Get everybody out. Get everything out. This is going to be somebody else's country now. Get your roots and soul out. Get them out. Around the streets, in the distance, there is intermittent gun fire. Get your women and children out. There are flares and smoke and fireworks exploding in the heavens, above the houses, beyond the port, near Mount Carmel, around the centre of town. Something was dying. Something was coming to an end for this generation of Palestinians. Get your women and children out. It was the turning point.

The men and women who were deferring Haifa were no longer there. They were dead. They were alone. They were wounded. They were one. Then the people go. The radio is dead. Before it dies someone issues Declaration 15 on the air. What was declaration 14? And 8? And 4? And 1? But there was no Declaration 16. The other was choked with fire. And despair. And helplessness. And death.

Four decades later the Declaration is still to be issued. And I sit here thinking if we have any liberated zones I can go to, to feel free in, to be free in.

In the meantime I, a Palestinian from the refugee camps who acquired his past in exile, hate. I hate the world I come from. I hate what has been done to it. What has been done in it. I hate those who are doing the doing. I hate, above all, what is done in its name. Robbed of my right to be, like so many other Arabs, I am reduced to hating — which is my only control mechanism, the only hot iron that cauterises the poison of my condition, the only channel through which I can siphon off my pain and may anger.

I lived in Nepal once. At the time, I was a stranger to myself. And I dropped a head of acid as I sat on top of the Swayambou Temple overlooking the Kathmandu Valley while I played cards with a woman from New York who wore sandals with straps up to her knees and had jet black hair that covered the whole of one cheek. She was Jewish.

"You deal," she said. The colours in the valley were beginning to become real, to have their own sounds. "I'll deal," I said. "Only this is a deck I brought from home with me. All the way from Palestine."

"So what you are dealing?" "I'm dealing pain. Palestinian pain. Every card gives you a measure of pain that stays with you for the rest of your life. And may be the life of your yet unborn child."

"Even the Ace does that?" "Yes, every card in the deck."

"We don't play this game in the United States."

"That's the only game we play in our part of the world — in Palestine, in Africa, in South America, in Asia, in Harlem, in the hovels, in the hideville, in the refugee camps."

I deal cards, and I return to Palestine on my trip. Only Palestine is not a country. It is time behind time, space behind space. Like a ham sandwich when you are a hungry Muslim, and like Palestinian metaphors and our embroidered dresses and *dabki* tunes and the time, soon, when the leaves will turn, when the leaves will fall, and autumn will make way for the clean snow. And then the echo will be heard long after the voice of our pain is forgotten.

## Islamic challenges to Turkey's European aspirations

There seems to be serious alarm in Turkey over emerging Islamic fundamentalism. David Barchard reports on what is seen by some as a threat to the freedom of middle-class liberals.

ANKARA — Turkey, the most secular and the most industrialised country of the Islamic world, is in the grip of a fierce argument about Islamic fundamentalism, something which until recently most middle-class Turks thought disappeared as a serious threat half a century ago.

In the space of a few weeks, fierce divisions have appeared between the major parties and political leaders. In some quarters, the assumption that Turkey is steadily evolving into a European-style advanced industrial society is under serious challenge. It is plain that there is serious alarm over fundamentalism. President Kenan Evren has denounced it for the first time as being as much of a danger to Turkey as Communism. The premier, Mr. Turgut Ozal, who has long been under fire from the press because of his family's religious connections, has been forced to admit that fundamentalism could be a potential danger for the country.

The social democratic opposition has been much more outspoken, reflecting the fears of many westernised middle-class families.

"The fundamentalists are pushing hard on every front to gain ground wherever they can," says Mr. Mithat Sirman, a journalist working for *Hurriyet*, Turkey's largest-selling daily newspaper which has been campaigning

against fundamentalists for months. The most noticeable single feature is the growing number of men and women wearing recognisable Islamic sectarian costume. Turkey has always been full of women wearing peasant shawls and sometimes veils across their faces. In the last five years, however, these have been joined by urban women wearing plain silk headscarves — known rather confusingly as turbans in Turkish — and similar coats. These are identifiable as members of the underground religious movements called *tarikats* or brotherhoods, which have been illegal for many years but whose membership is clearly expanding dramatically at present.

Recently, at the behest of President Evren, the wearing of these headscarves by women in universities was banned. To some this looks like an interference in personal freedom of dress, not least when male students and staff are not permitted to have beards or wear jeans.

But for most Turks, the headscarf is a political statement. The *tarikats* want to undo the reforms of Kemal Ataturk in the 1920s, abolish Turkey's Western secular institutions and install a clerical Islamic state.

There seems little doubt that this is, broadly speaking, a correct perception. A *Nakshibendi* *tarikati* follower whom I met not

long ago described Ataturk to me as "an enemy of religion who did the devil's work." The family of a girl belonging to the Suleymanli *tarikati* aims at establishing a religious state.

There are about half a dozen major *tarikats* and a huge number of smaller ones. Though their membership mostly consists of followers in rural areas and small towns, more than one prime minister of Turkey is believed to have been a *tarikati* member and connections between the religious movements and politicians are carefully monitored.

The key factor behind their growth seems to be the deliberate expansion of clerical education by right-wing politicians since 1965, and more particularly since 1980. The number of graduates of clerical training colleges doubled from 25,000 in 1980 to 46,400 in 1984. This was far more than the number of policemen or agriculturalists being trained.

It contrasts with the total suppression of religious education of any sort in Turkey for 15 years by Ataturk. Religious instruction is now compulsory in all schools and even Christian and Jewish children have to attend Islamic religious instruction and pass exams in it.

When the generals drew up the 1982 constitution, they believed religious education would be a bulwark against the spread of Marxist ideas. Now the army itself, a traditional guardian of secularism, feels threatened.

For most secularised Turks, the army is now the chief remaining

protection against a fundamentalist takeover. At home and at work, many have to contend with active pressures from fundamentalists.

President Evren recently revealed that religious extremists had been detected trying to infiltrate students into military academies.

"Every Friday there is a great rush to the mosque," says an official in the State Planning Organisation. "Everyone sees who places their superiors by going. I think it is extremely unhealthy, but no-one listens to me."

There is a similar situation in schools and in the streets. Some shops in middle-class quarters of Ankara now shut during prayer times on Fridays; Sunday has been the weekly holiday in Turkey since the 1920s. The mosque's cry is heard loudly at night in districts where until recently it was unfamiliar even by day.

The westernised element of Turkish society is largely middle-class and made up of intellectuals, civil servants and new business and industrial groups. These have all grown up inside the western educational and legal institutions created in the 1920s by Ataturk.

Turkey's legal system is entirely western, drawing on the Swiss civil code, Italian penal code and German commercial code. So, too, is the country's business life. Fundamentalists often slate Mr. Ozal for tolerating high interest rates. Islamic banking has existed only for the last three years under a special law and is very much on

the fringes of the financial world in Istanbul, operating under the euphemism of "special finance houses." In practice, the two Saudi-backed finance houses operate in a way which is hard to distinguish from that of a normal bank.

Alarmed by the growth of fundamentalism in the rural hinterland, most of the business world favours the swift integration of Turkey in the EEC.

No-one seems sure where the Islamic movement will end. To Mr. Demirel and the True Path Party, the development is perfectly healthy. But then Mr. Demirel presided over the restoration of clerical education in Turkey and is trying to build an electoral coalition against the government.

Mr. Ozal is caught between the strongly clerical wing of the Motherland Party and his liberal, business-minded advisers. His parliamentary party, which recently voted against an investigation into fundamentalism, seems chiefly clericalist.

Last month, fundamentalists surprised public opinion by holding marches in Istanbul and Konya, calling for the restoration of the *sharia* (Islamic holy law). These have been followed by a spate of detentions, arrests and trials of some of their leaders, reminiscent of the treatment meted out in Turkey to leftwing activists.

It seems unlikely that this will do much to halt what seems to be a growing social movement — Financial Times feature.

## Prince stresses need for education plan

(Continued from page 1)

the academic, vocational and economic and social requirements. Prince Hassan said "the present stage requires a very careful management of the human resources at our disposal and careful steps should be made in this work which should be based on sufficient and minute information and data about the society and its needs."

At the outset of the meeting, Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi reviewed the educational process in the Kingdom over the past three decades and the achievements realised in that period. "It is high time for making a general assessment of the educational process with a view to re-examining the national educational system for the sake of

strengthening it further," the minister said. He said that the special work team had been formed upon the request of Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Prince Hassan will participate in the council's session which will review the team's report and issue the recommendations.

## Arab driver killed after running down Israeli soldiers

(Continued from page 1)

took to the streets in the West Bank and the occupied Gaza Strip to protest against the Amal Shi'ite militia siege of their brethren in Beirut refugee camps. All five Palestinian universities in the West Bank were closed on Wednesday, four by military order and one on instructions from local school authorities.

Protesters in the West Bank town of Al Bireh, north of Jerusalem, burnt tyres on a main road and built stone barricades in nearby Jallazoun refugee camp. Palestinian sources said police arrested two men in the Gaza Strip during the night on suspicion of inciting demonstrations, bringing the number of Arabs detained since the unrest began to 64.

Israeli military censors on Tuesday banned the East Jerusalem Palestinian daily *Al Quds* from printing a Reuters photograph showing three Israeli plainclothes security men beating an Arab youth in the town of Ramallah, the newspaper said.

The same photograph appeared on the front page of the English-language Jerusalem Post.

## Spain ready to supply arms

(Continued from page 1)

Spain established diplomatic relations with Israel in January 1986 but said Madrid's support for Arab causes would not diminish in light of the move. Madrid also granted diplomatic status to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Spain.

Asked whether reports of alleged Spanish arms sales to Iran figured in his talks here, Dr. Serra said "the issue was not mentioned." Madrid has denied the reports.

However, Dr. Serra said: "If one of Spain's private industry is selling arms to Iran, it is clearly violating our (the government's) restrictions, and we are investigating all that."

Asked to comment on the focus of his talks with King Hussein, Dr. Serra said the discussions covered the Palestine problem and ways to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, in addition to the

general situation in the Middle East and a survey of the situation in Spain.

He said that his country believed that the solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict could come only through an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved in the conflict, including the PLO.

Asked on reservations voiced by some fellow members of the 12-nation European Community (EC) over convening an international conference on the Middle East, Dr. Serra said "there is now a common agreement" within the community that such a conference was the proper forum to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said his country was lobbying with its EC colleagues to convince them of the necessity to convene such a conference "as soon as possible."

## Shamir ready to go to polls

(Continued from page 1)

was unlikely, U.S. officials said.

A public quarrel between Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc and the middle-of-the-road Labour Party broke out in January after Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Israel favoured an international peace conference as the opening forum for peace talks with the Arabs.

The dispute continued until Mr. Shamir left for a 10-day visit to the United States Sunday night.

On Tuesday Mr. Peres said Israel and the United States may be ruining chances for Middle East peace talks by rejecting Arab calls for such a conference.

The daily Haaretz reported Wednesday that Mr. Peres used an intermediary to seek a meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the Kremlin.

The paper, quoting senior government sources, said Mr. Peres promised the Soviets the meeting would help pave the way for their participation in an international peace conference. It said the intermediary might be oil magnate Armand Hammer.

A senior Israeli foreign ministry official voiced support for an international Middle East peace conference despite Mr. Shamir's rejection of the idea in Washington.

Avraham Tamir, co-director-general of the foreign ministry led by Mr. Peres, said the ministry would continue to advocate a peace conference. He said 1987 would be the year the peace process starts in earnest.

"We're talking about talking, not about giving anything away," Mr. Tamir told reporters.

## Militias battle

(Continued from page 1)

officials into west Beirut last July to try to curb militia lawlessness there.

Local radios broadcast what they called a "final warning" to gunmen to withdraw by 1300 GMT but were ignored by fighters battling from street corner to street corner.

The radios said Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, would personally lead a joint security force comprising Syrian soldiers as well as Amal and Druze militiamen to halt the bloody clashes.

Brig. Kanaan was quoted as hinting at possible Syrian military intervention in west Beirut at a meeting he chaired of officials from the warring factions.





Participants in the journey from left to right: Abdel Jaber Barqawi, student Salem Hassanat, his father Khalil Hassanat and Mousa Al Riyati, the fifth participant, Hamdan Al Hassanat, is not shown.

## Jordanian camel riders to 'conquer' Europe

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Trekking on the back of a camel is always associated with the desert, but five Jordanians have come up with a unique idea: a 7,500 kilometre (KM) journey across the vast expanses of towns and villages, metropolitan centres and paved highways of two continents — from Aqaba to the ancient Andalusian palace of Alhambra in southern Spain.

Abdul Jaber Al Barqawi, 37, Hamdan Al Hassanat, 47, Khalil Al Hassanat, 46, Mousa Al Riyati, 28, and school boy Salem Al Hassanat, 13, plan to set out on a marathon trek with camels on March 15, to promote Jordan's image, history and development.

Jordan's five ambassadors of goodwill want to portray to the Europeans the Kingdom's ancient and hospitable traditions, that still exist alongside the rapid socio-economic and technological development the country has undergone.

### Promoting tourism

The group also hopes that through human-to-human con-

tacts and eventual media coverage, they would be able to introduce an image of Jordan to many Europeans who may want to learn more about Jordan, which would eventually encourage incoming tourism.

"At every stop we make, we shall erect a bedouin's goat-skin tent (*beit sha'er*). We'll offer people the traditional Arabic coffee (*Qahwet ahlan was shalan*) and show them maps and pictures depicting Jordan's historical, touristic, agricultural and industrial sites. We'll explain to them the diversity and richness of the Kingdom's history and ancient hospitable bedouin traditions", Al Barqawi, the group's leader told the Jordan Times in an interview.

Jordan's only port-city of Aqaba has been chosen by the five camel riders as starting point due to the historical meanings and values it holds. "We will kick off from the Castle of Aqaba, famed for being a crucial site during the Great Arab Revolt", which took place at the turn of this century, explained Al Barqawi, a Cairo University graduate in communications.

The objective of the journey, he said, was also to expose to the West the Arab culture and civil-

isation from a Jordanian viewpoint. "We'll be wearing our traditional costumes, trekking on camels, and hoisting the Kingdom's flag in these countries and show their peoples the warm bedouin hospitality the Kingdom enjoys," said Al Barqawi, who has worked for a number of foreign and Arab public relations companies.

The five camel riders who come from Jordan's southern parts, hope to complete their odyssey in almost 150 days — not including rest day where they would camp at towns and cities along their route. Once they reach Alhambra palace, they intend to present the five camels to King Juan Carlos of Spain, a personal friend of His Majesty King Hussein.

The projected JD 35,000 trip is expected to be financed by public and private institutions interested in promoting Jordan. The journey will cover Syria, Turkey, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Italy, Austria, West Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France and Spain.

The group has also asked the Ministry of Information to provide them with booklets on Jordan's history, tourism and development to be printed in four

languages: English, French, German and Spanish.

"We'll distribute these pamphlets to all concerned institutions in countries we visit in general and to youth associations in particular," Al Barqawi continued. He said that contacts are underway between the group, the Royal Jordanian Airline and Jordan's embassies in the countries they plan to visit to help in arranging folkloric shows to be staged by the camel riders in those countries.

The annual Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, said Al Barqawi, will be a main feature they intend to highlight during the journey.

### Training the animals

Al Barqawi expects the group to cover about 50 kilometres a day.

Preparations for the send-off includes training both the camels and their riders. The five dromedaries will be subjected to training that would make them get used to travelling on highways, hearing vehicles, trucks, trains and aeroplane noises and to high-beam lights. The camels will also undergo extensive train-

ing to urinate and drop at fixed times and to eat and drink amidst commotion, Al Barqawi said.

Each camel needs 60 litres of water every three days and eats between six to 10 kilograms of hay.

The trek's leader, who expressed hope that the group would not face any trouble en route, explained that participants will be trained to ride amidst all the unusual topographic and modernisation changes they were liable to face. They will also be coached on how to talk to the media. Al Barqawi said the travellers have a list of all diseases and ailments that might affect the camels and will be taking with them appropriate medications for each sickness. Camel traders say that the dromedaries were vulnerable to the following: diarrhoea, urinary retention, injuries of the hoof, physical injuries and stalling.

The five camels, Al Barqawi said will be purchased from dromedary merchants in the Sharah mountains, in Jordan's south. Sharah camels can undergo all weather and temperature changes since they are accustomed to these climatic influences from the surroundings of the

Sharah mountains. Each camel costs between JD 600 to 1000 — depending on their origin, family race, age etc.

Each of the five travellers has certain hobbies and skills that complement the others. Both Al Hassanat, and Al Hassanat are camel merchants who are well-versed in animal's habits and ailments. Al Riyati has been accustomed to working in tourism and presently works at the Aqaba Holiday Inn Hotel offering ground Arabic coffee to tourists. Al Barqawi, who has lived in a number of European cities, has very good command of English which will enable him to communicate with people in the countries they are to visit. The 13-year old presently attending school, is accustomed to camel riding and can play the *rabbaba*, a traditional musical string-instrument, similar to a violin.

Asked whether the trip would affect Hassanat's school grades and tuition, Al Barqawi explained that arrangements will be made with his school to allow him to sit for his end of term exams before they embark on the trip. He said the child will be back at beginning of the next scholastic year.

## Randa Habib's Corner

### Hole game

MY friends and I have "discovered" a new game in Amman and I invite you to join in. My friends, neighbours and I play it at least twice a day. It is easy, funny, and all you need is a car, preferably not your own, and, of course a valid driving licence.

The name of the game is to drive your car a distance of say 500 metres and steer it between deep street holes without falling into a single one. Until now, none of us who daily play this game were able yet to cross the distance without falling into at least one hole. But with constant practice some of us are improving and instead of falling into 15 or 10 holes some only manage to fall into three or two. It takes very good photographic memory, to recall where the holes are, and also a good car. Because with a bad engine if one falls in a hole he or she won't be able to get out, and is therefore disqualified.

My neighbours and I are now thinking seriously of putting the rules of the game in writing so that when people join in they are quickly informed. As for the place where we normally practice this sport, it is all over Thia'a Al Ali. There is no need to test your skill in Shmeisani or Jabal Amman, you won't find enough holes, and, even if you find one or two holes in the morning, you won't find them in the afternoon because the municipality would have worked on filling them up. So the best circuit for our game is Thia'a Al Ali. You have plenty of streets there to choose from, and hundreds of holes for your pleasure.

And the best route I found is the one that turns off Mecca Street towards the Baptist School. If you turn left and drive down that big wide road, you will find the best holes in Greater Amman. Keep on driving, turn right, and there, for your greatest enjoyment you will find that in some streets the area covered by that asphalt, by holes is much greater than the area covered by that asphalt. Try to memorise the holes and then compete with one of your friends to find out who can avoid the greatest number of holes.

By the way, you do not have to worry about not finding the holes the next day, as in Thia'a Al Ali, holes conform to laws of nature, they keep multiplying and deepening.

## Where does all the money go?

By David Riss  
Reuter

LONDON — Recycled from Riyadh to Rio, Tokyo to Turin, New York to London, growing every time, a huge pool of money accumulated in the inflationary oil shocks of the 1970s is still sloshing through a global marketplace.

As the money flows, it can dictate what mortgage rates will be in Minnesota or how many more pesos a Bolivian has to pay for a meal. It develops a momentum of its own, as its owners restlessly seek a mix of safety and an optimum return.

The process has pushed world share and bond markets to what were once inconceivably dizzy heights. Today, money that began life being cranked off the printing presses to pay for OPEC oil, swirls from one temporary haven to the next. It may be shares bought here and sold in Tokyo, bonds printed in Washington, an owned in Luxembourg, or a loan from a Japanese insurance company to a Middle East chemicals venture.

The flows are so huge that some economists and bankers worry that the flood of money into and out of various markets could destabilise the international financial system.

In its world outlook for 1987, the economist intelligence unit, an independent research group, saw a danger that, if there were too much speculation and too little regulation of the trade in money, that could cause the collapse of the financial system.

A London-based banker, who spoke on condition that he was not named, said that, at the turn of the year, as billions of dollars invested in just one type of security — suddenly ebbed out of that market, it rattled financiers around the world.

"There were boards of directors of the world's biggest banks meeting to talk about bailing out of a bond position," he said. "For them to discuss that was unprecedented, and it shows just how nervous they really are."

The money in the perpetual

note market, as in the rest of the global money markets, flows through the hands of banks, insurance companies, pension funds, and the custodians of the reserves held by nation-states.

These traditional players in the money markets are also being joined by industrial companies, who were once their clients but these days often bypass financial institutions by moving directly into the markets themselves.

A huge amount of this global flow of money has been sent on shares, as governments in Europe and Japan sell off their state-owned utilities, airlines and banks.

And as the United States falls deeper into debt, and has to finance a \$200-billion budget deficit, it is this global pool of money that buys U.S. treasury bonds and bills.

Bankers say that when this money starts moving in a new direction, it sends waves through the whole world economy.

Third World nations are still reeling from the basic shift of the 1980s, when a floodtide of billions of dollars that had flowed to them in the form of loans by Western banks was dammed and the banks diverted it to the apparently less risky market for bonds and shares, especially bonds.

Banks not only slashed new lending to the Third World but increasingly slowed lending to any sort of doubtful risk, giving up the fat margins they could have earned in return for safety.

Insurance companies look to their income from investments in booming share markets to offset what are at times major losses on policies they had underwritten, even at the cost of some additional risk.

The managers of money agree that one imperative of very large sums of money is to be able to move, at a moment's notice if necessary, which creates an irresistible demand for round-the-clock money markets.

Trading never stops in currencies or in such liquid investments as the shares of the world's largest and bluest-chip companies or U.S. government bonds.

## Scientists studying precious metals bubbling from ocean, Red Sea floors

By Jane Arraf  
Reuter

MONTREAL — Scientists searching for precious metals have turned to the ocean floor, where natural chimneys are spewing out a metal-enriched black dust containing particles of gold, silver, copper and zinc.

Scientists believe these hot springs are recreating the process which, billions of years ago, created vast metal deposits now found on land.

The discovery is giving geologists a glimpse into the earth's early history and fuelling some new theories on the origin of life. It also has huge implications for mining companies.

Geologists are just beginning to understand how these chimneys, made of clusters of sulphur and minerals, are formed, and what makes them spew out the mineralised dust.

At present it is not commercially feasible for mining companies to operate beneath the sea, although some scientists believe the "black smokers," formally known as active mineralising systems, will be a major — and renewable — source of metals in the next decade.

In the meantime, mining companies are using the ocean-floor research to locate similar deposits on land.

"The hottest thing in the mining research game right now is ... the discovery within the past few years of mineral deposits currently forming — in front of our eyes — on the ocean floor," said Dr. Joseph Fox, a Montreal geologist who organised an international conference on the subject this month.

Canada has mined some of the richest copper, zinc and gold deposits in the world. In the past year, mining companies have used knowledge about where mineral formations occur on the ocean floor to find the deposits on land.

Geologists are excited because, unlike metal deposits on land, which are two or three billion years old, the undersea deposits keep renewing themselves.

"It's really incredible ... to think that we have a renewable metal resource when we've been taught to think of metal resources as non-renewable," Fox said.

The 30-foot-high chimneys or vents, discovered in 1979, are found along fractures in the

ocean's crust. Scientists believe the deposits form when cold seawater seeps into the fractures, leaching metals as it is drawn down.

As the water travels in the direction of the earth's core, it heats up. Eventually the hot water rises, carrying with it the hot metal sulphide toward the ocean floor.

When the hot sulphide meets the cold seawater, a thick black smoke-like substance is formed, spewing out of vents in built-up deposits of sulphide.

The particles in the smoke eventually settle on the ocean floor, forming vast solid sheets of metal sulphide.

Clusters of chimneys and the smoke pouring out of them eventually form one large deposit, which sometimes continues to build from underneath.

The largest known deposit in the world, west of Vancouver island, contains estimated reserves of 30 to 100 million tonnes of sulphide, with high grades of gold and zinc.

That is far larger than average deposits on land, which contain one to two million tonnes of reserves.

Other large deposits are in the Red Sea and off the Galapagos Islands.

Although the deposit off Vancouver clearly extends into U.S. territory, a section of it is at the centre of a boundary dispute between the United States and Canada.

The United States is taking offshore leasing bids on the deposits from mining companies, but Canada is keeping tight control over the area, said James Franklin, the co-ordinator of the Canadian sea floor minerals programme.

Scientists in mini-submarines have photographed and broken off samples of the ore. They plan to return this summer to take more samples to get a better idea of the deposit's size and grade.

Geologists believe these seabed deposits will someday be exploited but said that mining metals from the bottom of the ocean may be held back by the cost of developing technology.

Fox said mining companies were investigating the possibility of extraction but the technology was not far enough advanced to obtain the deposits from the ocean floor, two kilometres.

## Swiss plan to tighten laws on granting asylum

By Richard Murphy  
Reuter

ZURICH — The Swiss government plans to tighten rules on admitting refugees despite protests from human rights groups that it is endangering Switzerland's tradition of offering sanctuary to the persecuted.

In a referendum on April 5, voters will give their verdict on proposals which the government admits are aimed at making Switzerland less attractive as a refuge for all but the truly deserving.

Under Swiss law, this means those whose lives or liberty are at risk because of their race, religion, nationality, political views or membership of a social group.

Discontent with economic or social circumstances at home is not sufficient. The government wants to deter people who do not meet the criteria for refugee status from coming to Switzerland in the first place. It also says that tougher measures are needed to deal with a flood of refugees and a large backlog of applications waiting to be processed.

But the main churches say the amendments are intended to frighten off all refugees, while the London-based human rights

group Amnesty International charges that "the proposed changes would throw into question the protection of the politically persecuted."

Walter Stockli, a lawyer working for the Swiss central office for refugee assistance (SFH), says: "We are convinced that, as a result of these measures, people who should be granted asylum in Switzerland will be turned away."

One controversial aspect of the new rules is that they would empower the government to stop the admission of all refugees if faced with a sudden surge in applications.

At present, the government can do this only in times of heightened international tension.

Of more immediate concern to refugee groups is a proposal to give the relatively conservative governments of Switzerland's 26 cantons more say in deciding who should be granted asylum.

The SFH believes that in practice this will mean that cantonal police, who lack expertise in international affairs and are trained to interrogate criminals rather than judge whether a foreigner is being persecuted, will make more and more negative decisions which will be rubber-stamped in Bern.

The government insists that only

clearly unjustified applications will be dismissed at cantonal level and that 80 per cent of asylum-seekers will still be able to put their case in person to federal officials in Bern.

Other proposed amendments would oblige refugees to register at a few designated border points, permit the detention of those refused asylum for up to 30 days before expulsion and allow cantons to ban applicants from working for three months.

Other Western European countries also face a flood of refugees, but the Bern government argues that Switzerland has attracted a disproportionate number because of its humanitarian traditions and high standard of living.

Since 1983, between 6,000 and 10,000 people per year have applied for asylum here.

At the end of 1986, there were 30,141 foreigners with refugee status in Switzerland. The backlog of applications from people waiting in Swiss refugee centres stood at 21,470.

Many cantons refuse to accept more than a token number of refugees, putting the main burden of feeding and housing asylum-seekers on the authorities in the main cities.

Even under existing rules, the

number of people granted asylum in Switzerland has steadily declined.

In 1986, 820 people were granted asylum out of 6,601 who applied, a "recognition quota" of only 12 per cent compared with 75 per cent in 1983.

The SFH, an umbrella organisation for refugee groups, feels the law is already being interpreted too rigidly.

It detects a shift in public opinion from the post-war years, when memories of Jews being turned away from the Swiss border to death at the hands of the Nazis were still fresh and refugees, mostly from Eastern Europe, were made welcome.

Today's refugees, the SFH says, "come unasked, four fifths of them are from the Third World and alien cultures."

"Many Swiss are growing concerned about their jobs and this has led to a defensive attitude towards foreigners in general and refugees in particular," the refugee group concludes.

The refugee question has been highlighted by the case of some 40 Sri Lankan Tamils whose expulsion was ordered on the grounds that they would not be in danger in the south of their troubled country.

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5315/25	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3295/3305	Canadian dollar
	1.8240/50	West German marks
	2.0582/92	Dutch guilders
	1.5430/40	Swiss francs
	37.65/70	Belgian francs
	6.0730/80	French francs
	1296/1297	Italian lire
	153.65/75	Japanese yen
	6.4925/75	Norwegian crowns
	6.9740/50	Swedish crowns
	6.8740/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	392.20/392.70	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities again soared to record levels as Wall Street continued to climb, and optimism over next month's budget in the wake of Tuesday's better than expected U.K. public borrowing data, dealers said.

The £3.7 billion January public sector borrowing requirement repayment has fuelled speculation that the government will have room to cut and reform taxes in the budget, which could lead to a rise in consumer spending. The surplus has also raised prospects of a cut in domestic interest rates.

At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index stood 23.4 points up at 1,965.4 after touching a record 1,977.4 at 1448 GMT. Dealers said there is strong speculation that U.K. base rates, now 11 per cent, could be cut soon, with the consensus of opinion calling for such a move around the time of the March 17 budget. The previous six budgets have all been accompanied by base rate cuts.

The FTSE 100 index is widely expected to break through 2,000 before March 17, but at these lofty levels many dealers anticipate a post-budget sell-off.

YOUR DAILY  
Horoscope  
from the Carroll Righter Institute

## FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 19, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is the day for analysis and study of all factors concerning your future activities. You are able to focus on the means by which you can achieve your ambitions.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Concentrate on how to get rid of frustrations. Take someone you like into your confidence.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Situations arise that will show you what your true position is with others. Rely on wise people now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get your activities nicely organized so that you gain the admiration of prominent persons.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You get fine creative ideas now, so apply yourself. Your partners are very cooperative.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Concentrate on fundamental affairs and see how much assistance you can count on from your family.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan how best to contact those in the same line as yours. Get into studies that can bring you advancements.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be more concerned with finances and other assets. Confer with those who are most successful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Choose your friends now that you'll want to be with in the future. Contact them with a phone call.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be with experts in your own field. Enjoy romance with the one you love and be charming.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can now go after your personal aims in a most organized way and get good results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into career and civic work with a vengeance and you can gain your objectives quite easily now.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study new ambitions. Be practical and logically go after friends who can further your interests.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very magnetic and also be able to think logically. Give a good philosophical training of proven worth that will guide this life properly. Influential people can be most helpful to your highly intelligent son, or daughter, and much success is possible.

\*\*\*  
FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 20, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A curious sort of day when you first are able to get information you want that can be helpful to you, but some obstacles will get in the path of your progress.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study the promises you've devoted yourself to and keep them to the best of your ability.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Situations arise that will shed light on affairs you need to handle. You find a way to work out a problem.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can handle much work intelligently now, provided you first complete a task left unfinished.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A system for utilizing some special talent can get you working ideally now.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't permit a situation at home to depress you. Wait until tonight before visiting with outsiders.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can communicate well with outside contacts. Don't visit one who never fails to depress you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study several ways of increasing your abundance and forget antiquated methods that gain you little.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you release that long-time situation that does not help you, you will be able to gain other goals quickly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study whatever it is that is deterring your progress. Enjoy greater happiness with your mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Look to a good friend for assistance in gaining some special wish. This person, however, will expect the same.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into outside activities and improve your position in life. Not a good day to ask for favors from bigwigs.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) New ideas and situations arise that can help you to advance considerably. Forget a boring activity for now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those delightful young persons who will have the ability to get at the true facts of any situation that comes his, or her, way, so let those who rear this child give direct answers to any questions asked. One who will be a born organizer and very successful.

## Western banks minimise exposure to Mideast

BAHRAIN (R) — Western banks have further cut back their exposure to the Middle East as high debt levels, payments problems and the 6½-year-old Gulf war slow the pace of traditional lending.

Economists in the region said international banks have had to develop a new strategy to cope with two major problems. The first is how to recoup loans already extended, particularly to companies hit hard by the Middle East recession.

The second is how to maintain a presence in the region without accumulating even more bad and doubtful loans.

Mr. Richard Stutely, chief economist at Bursan Bank in Kuwait, said: "Western banks have continued to reduce their exposure to the Middle East. But looking ahead to the 1990s there could be a pick-up and banks will want to maintain their presence for that event."

Economists estimate Middle East nations, including North Africa countries such as Algeria and Morocco, owe about \$130 billion, a level that has caused alarm given high dependence on oil and tension generated by the Gulf war.

Economists said most banks

are still willing to lend to all six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman.

But of the six, only Oman has consistently borrowed to finance budget deficits and government officials in Muscat have said there will be no major new borrowing this year.

Saudi Arabia has said publicly it will not borrow to finance its planned \$14 billion 1987 budget deficit, opting instead to draw down its still substantial reserves.

Other Gulf nations seem set to tap liquidity in their domestic money markets for short-term funding and rely on a recovery in oil prices to fund day-to-day expenditure.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) decision in December to curb oil output and boost prices has taken some pressure off Gulf economies, but there are few signs of higher government spending or

need for development finance. Banks therefore find themselves virtually cut off from the most obvious outlet in the Middle East for country lending.

One Bahrain-based economist said: "There is a group of Arab countries that many banks would not touch — Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Egypt, Sudan and Syria."

## Jordan maintains credibility

A second group forms a "grey area" of countries still able to borrow, but not without some bank resistance, he said.

These include North Yemen, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Jordan.

Jordan is arranging a \$150 million credit, but a \$200 million deal for North Yemen fell through last year as the government sought cheaper forms of lending and aid instead.

Latest figures from the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements show Middle East OPEC countries, including Iran, reduced the amount of outstanding loans to Western banks by \$1.9 billion in the first nine months of 1986.

Economists said this reflected

the virtual drying up of non-trade related credits and the fact that debt repayments now outweigh the flow of new bank funds to borrowers.

At the same time, the group of countries drew down an estimated \$12.5 billion in deposits with banks as oil prices fell sharply and budget deficits had to be bridged.

Figures from the bank, which monitors international lending worldwide, show Saudi Arabia alone withdrew an estimated \$6.3 billion in the first nine months of last year.

Bank loans outstanding to a group of non-OPEC Middle East countries — Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, North and South Yemen — fell by \$1.2 billion.

Economists said new flows of bank finance to the Middle East are now mostly trade related, either through letters of credit or backed by government export credit guarantee agencies.

But even letters of credit for Iraq have virtually dried up after a series of reschedulings of short-term obligations sought by the state-owned Rafidain Bank.

In Egypt, absence of agreement on an economic programme with the International Monetary

Fund has blocked moves to reschedule government-backed debt and clear arrears.

In the absence of traditional lending, banks have been retrenching their Middle East operations, particularly in the offshore financial centre of Bahrain.

Banks are devoting much of their time to debt recovery, particularly in the corporate sector where some firms have taken advantage in debt disputes of Islamic court rulings in their favour that do not recognise the concept of interest.

International banks have started to concentrate on other forms of banking, with one recent innovation for the region a \$100 million Eurocommercial paper programme for Bahrain-based Gulf Air arranged by Gulf International Bank.

But bankers are generally sceptical about the scope for developing such instruments for Middle East companies, few of which would meet normally stringent financial requirements.

## Cheysson details drop in development aid

Meanwhile, a leading European Community (EC) official

Tuesday criticised what he called an alarming decline in development aid, calling this a major cause of a rapidly deteriorating situation in the Third World.

EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson said the time had come to take action against the "dramatic consequences" resulting from a drop in public development aid and investment in developing countries to the lowest level for many years.

He told the European Parliament during a debate on North-South dialogue that non-government aid to the Third World had slumped from \$60 billion in 1980 to \$30 billion in 1985.

Mr. Cheysson said recent statistics showed a continuing decline, and said the situation on the ground was far worse than even a year ago. Virtually all developing countries were suffering a marked decline in income per head of population.

Problems were made worse by an increase in Third World debt and a rise in interest rates. The various factors "aggravate the economic dilemma of the developing world, already having to contend with a fall in export receipts and an increase in the cost of their imports," he said.

## Reagan to campaign for American quality

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Tuesday he will travel across the country promoting his package of measures to make U.S. businesses more competitive with foreign manufacturers without resorting to import barriers.

President Reagan said his goal is a "quest for excellence. Call it preparing for the 21st century. In the year 2000, we want America still at the top of the charts, the front of the pack, the head of the class."

Both President Reagan and opposition Democrats have been proposing ways to increase American competitiveness in the face of record U.S. trade deficits, which last year totalled nearly \$170 billion.

On Thursday, President Reagan will send to Congress his legislative package, which calls for steps such as easing antitrust laws, changes in product-liability laws and steps to raise educational standards. He did not spell out his proposals in any detail.

A major goal is to blunt protectionist pressures in Congress and take the steam out of restrictive trade legislation.

"History has taught us that we cannot become more competitive or enjoy major job growth by restricting imports across-the-board," President Reagan said. He said that free trade "is one of the few things almost all economists agree on."

He said that for American businesses, "The quest for excellence will be the challenge to make products more efficiently, to embrace new ideas, better methods of management and new technologies."

He said he would visit schools, factories, laboratories and workplaces all across America in his campaign.

Treasury Secretary James Baker said Tuesday: "The quickest way for us to become non-competitive is to resort to a protectionist trade bill."

He warned against what he called "The Siren song of protection-

ism" now heard in Congress.

Mr. Clayton Yeutter, President Reagan's special trade representative, said, "there is no way Congress can legislate a reduction in the trade deficit," which hit \$170 billion last year.

Mr. Yeutter said the United States has satisfactorily settled seven of the eight unfair trade cases, usually involving subsidies or dumping, that it has filed against trading partners, with only the case of Brazilian computer equipment still pending.

He took issue with a suggestion that the tense, last-minute solution of a dispute over farm trade with the European Community (EC) last month showed that the administration is making tougher retaliatory threats and is more willing to go to "war with Europe" on trade matters than with Japan.

"I don't see any reason to distinguish between the two," Mr. Yeutter said. "We solved a major case on tobacco and cigarette products just before the

first of the year that involved more money than the EC controversy did, probably at least \$1 billion a year."

"We also announced a retaliation (against Japan) on leather and settled that one about a year ago... so we've done the same thing," with both sides, Mr. Yeutter added.

Mr. William Brock, Mr. Yeutter's predecessor as trade representative and now labour secretary, predicted that the drop in the value of the U.S. dollar "is going to show a fairly marked effect" this year in reducing the deficit.

Mr. Yeutter said, "obviously we would like to see Japan, (West) Germany and a lot of other countries open their markets to a greater degree than they have thus far."

"We are working very aggressively on that, more aggressively than any administration in history by far, at both the bilateral and multilateral level," he continued.

## Prices of raw materials hit lowest point in ten years

WASHINGTON (AP) — World prices for major raw materials dropped to their lowest level in more than a decade last year, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

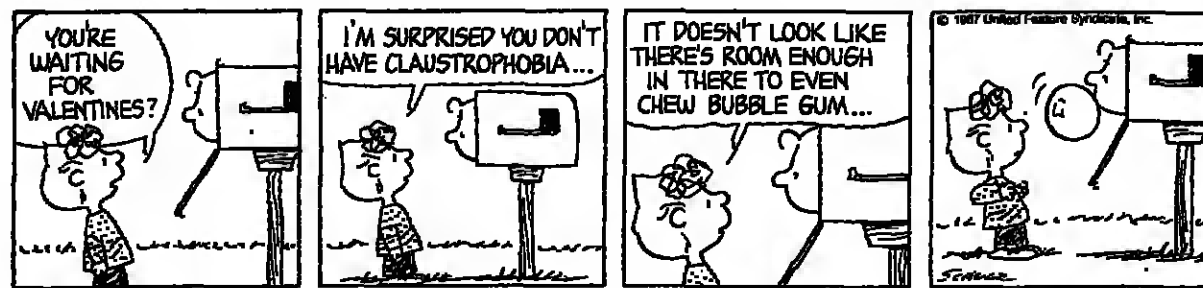
The figures do not include the decline in the price of oil. The drop for 1986 was four per cent in terms of the U.S. dollar, the IMF said, even though the dollar itself dropped sharply during the year. In real terms, taking the fall of the dollar into account, the drop in commodity prices was estimated at more than 18 per cent.

In December, prices were at their lowest point since early 1976, according to the IMF report. Poor countries, which depend heavily on selling raw materials to buy the manufactured goods they need, are most affected by the decline. The dollar price of manufactures rose by an average of 17.5 per cent.

In dollar terms, 34 commodities fell 27 per cent below their 1980 peak.

The price for sugar was up by 49.7 per cent in the year, however, the largest average price gain. Coffee was also up, by 28.1 per cent.

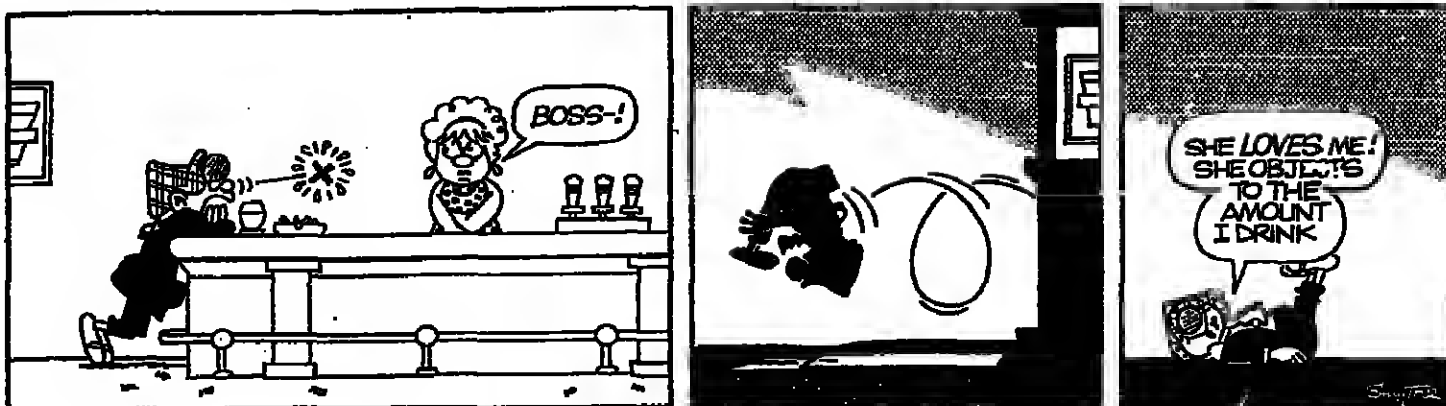
## Peanuts



## Mutt n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

